

Basketball squads fall to Washburn Wednesday

GAME RESULTS
ON PAGE B1

Protection for renters:

Avoid rental horror,
see page 6A

Students get help with tax returns

To find out how
go to page 2A



Student Activity fee passes by slim margin

*Fee passes by 30 votes,
Student Senate waits
to finalize proposal*

By SARAH SWEDBERG
CHIEF REPORTER

A fee to bring in big-name entertainment and quality activities to Northwest will now move forward to President Dean Hubbard's Cabinet and the Board of Regents.

By a margin of 30 votes, the Student Activities Fee passed with 883 students voting.

"The vote shows people want more quality entertainment," Student Senate President Emily Dix said.

The close margin came with 443 students voting in favor of the fee and 412 students voting against it. Twenty-eight students abstained. Students voted from Feb. 12-17 for the fee.

Now Dix will take the results of the student vote to Student Senate for them to vote on the proposal.

"I would like a recommendation (Please see 'Activities Fee' page A5)



Signing of joint agreement brings Northwest one step closer to joining the UM system; approval from General Assembly awaits

By PETE GUTSCHENRITTER
ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

Northwest is three steps away from officially merging with the University of Missouri system.

After the signing of a joint resolution, Northwest President Dean Hubbard and UM President Elson Floyd forged the Memorandum of Understanding onto Jefferson City Friday.

It now awaits approval from both the Senate and the House of Representatives and Gov. Bob Holden before Northwest is recognized as a UM campus.

"Throughout these discussions, we have been keenly aware of the implications of this proposed move," said Jim Johnson, President of the Northwest Board of Regents. "After all, we are being asked, in a way, to vote ourselves out of a job, but actually that was the least of our concerns. But it shows the serious-

ness of the situation; of the decision we're going to make."

Northwest and UM officials described the day as a monumental step.

"By becoming part of the system, we're at the table, not at the door with your hat in your hand; we can do things that couldn't be done otherwise for students in this region," Hubbard said.

Floyd reemphasized the fact that a voluntary merger between two public universities has never happened before, but is excited about the future.

Two universities have never merged without financial pressure, state mandates by the governor or by the legislature, Floyd noted.

(Please see 'Signing' page A5)



Q&A

With Rep. Brad Lager
and Dean Hubbard



-Is tuition going to increase?

Lager: From what I understand from reading the Memorandum of Understanding, it will not arbitrarily go up. But tuition increases in the state is a problem we have, because tuition has skyrocketed. The normal person can barely afford to go to school and that has become a major problem. We need to develop a cap of some sort so there aren't 10 to 12 percent increases.

Hubbard: Yes, but not as a result of the merger. Ray Courter (vice president of Finance) projects tuition rates several years into the future. The increase voted by the (Board of Regents) was actually presented to them two years ago and last year. Tuition rates for next year were approved before the merger was discussed or voted upon.

-Will faculty research be an issue in the merger?

Lager: The memorandum states Northwest will continue to be an instructor institution.

Hubbard: Only those faculty directly involved in teaching in the four fields where we offer doctorates will have expanded obligations. As part of the UM system it will be much easier for Northwest researchers to receive federal funding for their efforts.

-Is the community in favor of the merger?

Lager: That's part of the reason we need to educate people. Folks are still unsure. What we're trying to do is take steps to get information out so they can decide.

Hubbard: That is hard to gauge. The business leaders in the community are en-

thusiastic about the merger. There is no possible way that the merger would be a negative for the community. More graduate students means more spending. Securing Northwest's future enrollments is a positive for the community. The best thing we can do for the community is have a strong University.

-What has been the response you've received from alumni you've talked to?

Lager: We still get feedback from alumni and that's great. People have concerns and we're trying to share the information we have. We're communicating with them but we're also communicating in Jefferson City because we have to get 82 votes on the floor.

Hubbard: The vast majority are positive, particularly when they think through the benefits. Remember our Centennial slogan: "Celebrate Northwest: A century of traditions and transitions." This is a positive transition.

-How does the result of Southwest Missouri State University's name change and Missouri Western name change affect Northwest in the House of Representatives?

Lager: It creates a new level of complexity in the House of Representatives.

Hubbard: It's not clear to me that it won't have an impact (the merger). Hopefully legislators look at this on its own merit. I'm confident our legislative team will handle this in an adroit way. My suspicion is the people who pulled out (of the SMS name change) have 28 different reasons why they did so.

Wet Winter leaves potholes in Maryville roads

*Road workers get
busy fixing excess
damage to roads*

By STEPHANIE STANGL
CHIEF REPORTER

Melted snow across the county left behind more than puddles and mud.

Potholes now replace the excessive snow and ice that covered the streets.

According to Greg Decker, Maryville Public Works director, rock salt is the culprit.

"The salt melts the ice and snow. Then the water sinks down into pre-existing cracks and freezes, cracking the asphalt and breaking it off," Decker said. "It's a necessary evil. If we don't get the salt on the roads, they stay slick and that's more dangerous than the potholes."

Ideal materials for fixing street damage are not available year round but Decker said the workers have already begun repairs.

"The (road workers) were out last week filling potholes," Decker said. "They had to put in a temporary patch because all the asphalt plants are shut down this time of year so we can't get the hot asphalt mixture (which is best). We then come back in April or May to clean the streets up and put a permanent fix on them."

According to Decker, after all labor and materials are figured, a 1 foot by 1 foot pothole costs the city approximately \$75.

(Please see 'Road workers' page A5)

April 2, 2003

Northwest President Dean Hubbard called his cabinet together to discuss the possibility of merging with the University of Missouri system.

April 22, 2003

Rep. Brad Lager rules there is not enough time in the legislative session to discuss the merger.

The long road to merging

January 9-10, 2004

The Board of Regents discusses the merger during its two-day retreat. The regents discussed each of the 15 principles and gave input for the final draft.

February 7, 2004

Board of Regents approve the merger, 7-1. Lydia Hurst was the lone Regent to vote against the merger.

The Board of Regents approve talks of the UM merger, 6-1. Regent Doug Sutton voted against the merger.

April 13, 2003

Hubbard and UM system President Elson Floyd officially decelerate talks of merger.

October 1, 2003

A draft of the Memorandum of Understanding is sent to the Board of Regents.

December 2, 2003

The University of Missouri system Board of Curators unanimously approve merger.

January 29, 2004

The Board of Regents and the Board of Curators sign joint resolution and send it to Jefferson City to be debated in the House of Representatives and the Senate.

February 13, 2004

Speaker discusses relationship with Ku Klux Klan

Author speaks about the reality of racism, white supremacy and the Klan

By JANEA PHILIP
UNIVERSITY NEWS EDITOR

Reliving encounters as far back as age 10, Daryl Davis reveals the harsh realities of racism.

Davis began remembering the days of 1968 when he was the only black Boy Scout in Belmont, Mass. While marching down the street in the parade with his fellow scouts, children and parents threw bottle tops and debris at him. He couldn't understand what was happening as his cub leaders huddled around him to protect him from harm.

As his parents patched up his bruises from the parade, they explained to him the difference between being black in America and white.

From that day on Davis said that he "began to realize" the existence of racism.

Davis spoke on his book, "Klan-Destine Relationships" Monday evening at the

Charles Johnson Theatre. He gave detail of his life as a black man dealing with white supremacy.

In 1974 as a 10th grader, a speaker pointed at Davis and told him that he would be "shipped back to Africa." The speaker continuously discussed the sins of intermingling with the black race and told Davis that he would be "exterminated in the upcoming race war." This incident sparked Davis's interest in race relations and he began collecting various materials on white supremacy.

"My hobby was studying racism," Davis said. "It became my obsession to learn about this."

Upon graduation from Howard University with a bachelor's degree in music, Davis began to travel the region to play the piano.

While performing with a country band at a truck stop in 1983, a man complimented Davis on his piano playing. He bought Davis a drink and told him about his affiliation with the Ku Klux Klan. After a night of drinking and conversation the Klan member gave Davis his card and told him to contact him whenever he was playing in the area again. Surprisingly, Davis did, and they formed a unique rela-

tionship.

It wasn't until 1991 that Davis decided to start research on the Ku Klux Klan. His relationship with the man in the truck stop helped him gain information about the Klan. Tips from the man led him to the Grand Dragon of Maryland, Roger Kelly.

With the help of his white secretary, Davis was able to set up an interview with Kelly and keep his identity concealed. As he described the process of meeting with Kelly, it created suspense within the audience. He gave detail of his interview with Kelly and his bodyguard who reached for his gun whenever Davis would put his hand in his bag. The interview that was expected to last an hour, stretched to more than three.

Northwest junior Kevin Fraser was amazed of Davis's ability to interview Kelly.

"The most memorable of his lecture was the meeting with Roger Kelly," Fraser said. "When you know someone hates you and to actually sit down and listen to why they hate you, was unbelievable."

Davis explained how after his first interview with Kelly, they became friends. Davis would invite Kelly on errands and go out to eat with him and his bodyguard.

(Please see 'Author' page A5)

GRAND OPENING...



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE SUCKOW/MANAGING EDITOR
After the scissors couldn't cut through the ribbon during Applebee's ribbon-cutting ceremony Monday, Frank Ramano, area director of Applebee's, uses an unorthodox method to get the job done in front of Maryville Applebee's management staff. Applebee's opened to the public Tuesday.

Web Extras:

Log on today for a preview of an upcoming cultural feast, a review of two student-produced plays, and what Northwest Publications were recently honored.

Last week's poll:

How do you feel about the proposed Student Senate activities fee?

31.7% Reduce the cost and I'll vote yes
26.8% I support it. Anything for a decent show
26.8% No way. I find my entertainment off campus
14.6% I don't care. Mom will pay it anyway

Online poll:

How do you feel about the new Applebee's?
a. Finally eating good in the neighborhood.
b. I'm loyal to local restaurants.
c. I don't care. I'm broke as a joke.
d. New Applebee's?

Return of the income taxes:

Accounting majors give students and low-income families' free assistance

BY SARAH SWEDBERG
CHIEF REPORTER

What comes as a welcome break for Maryville residents also provides accounting majors another opportunity to gain experience for the future.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program also provides students and lower income community members with a free tax preparation service.

"We provide the service of either helping them prepare, answering questions or preparing (the tax return) for them," said Roger Woods, VITA advisor and assistant professor of accounting, economics and finance.

The VITA program provides this service free of charge from Feb. 2 to April 5, taking place each Monday between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. Students and lower income community members do not have to make an appointment for this service but they are asked to bring W-2 forms and other tax documents.

"Anything that says 'important tax information' on it, they need to bring it in," said Tamika Reine, assistant coordinator of VITA.

Junior Charles Haynes said he found the service provided by VITA very helpful as a student.

"They are courteous and willing to work with you," Haynes said. "It's a privilege to use it because they don't have to offer it to you."

Both junior Adam Stluka and Haynes said the service is time-saving to students who are looking for a place to prepare their taxes.

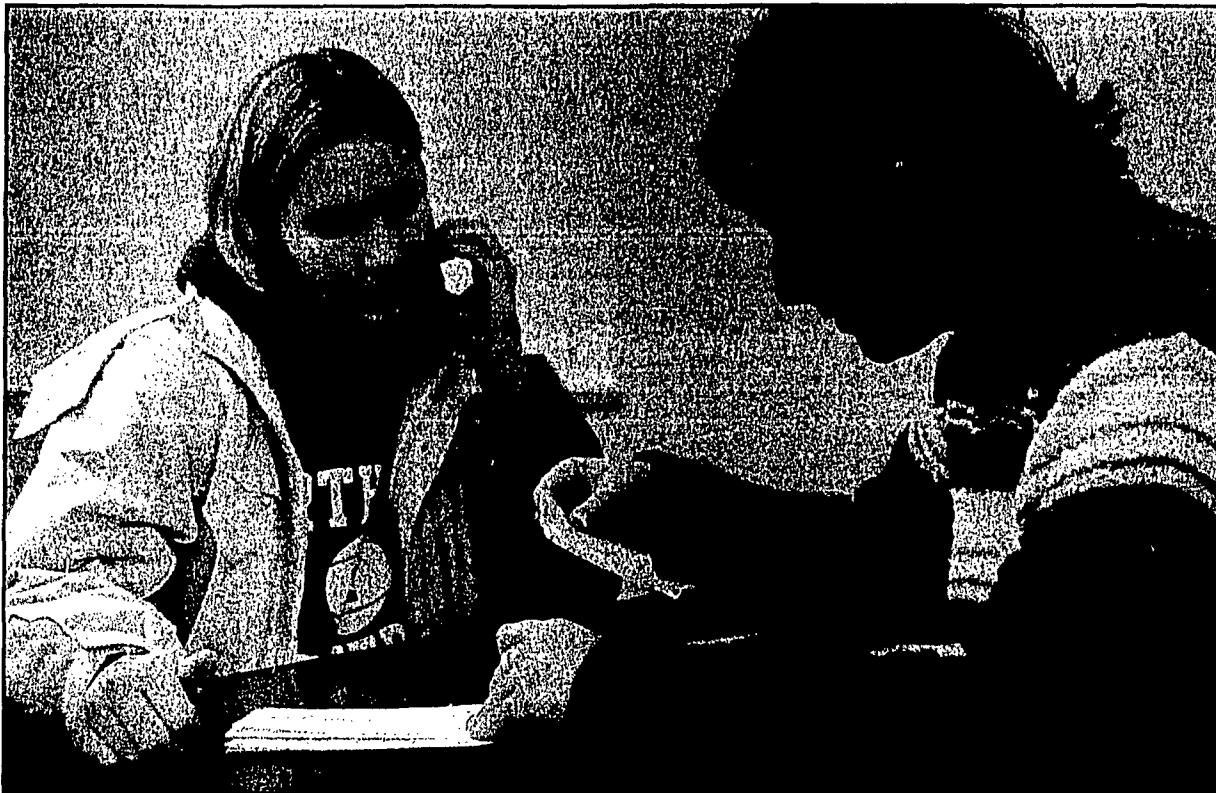


PHOTO BY LAURA CADY/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kim Hermreck prepares Jennifer Gries' taxes Monday night in Colden Hall. VITA provides students with free assistance with their income taxes. "It's really helpful," said Gries. "They are very efficient and are actually saving me around \$60."

However, Stluka and Haynes said many students living off campus may not know about the program, because it is not widely advertised. So many students find out about the service through word of mouth from others. Stluka and Haynes said that is how they found out about the service.

Tara Scott, a volunteer income tax assistant, said she would encourage anybody who can participate in the services VITA offers to do so, because it's free and effective.

Reine said that anyone who qualifies for the service should

take advantage of it and use it. While sometimes people may be apprehensive about the program because Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) are not preparing the forms, Woods, who is a CPA, reviews all returns before they are given back to the students.

Tax returns are given back to students within a week after they come into use the service, said Reine.

Northwest accounting majors work on tax returns on Monday evenings to consult with their clients as well as Wednes-

days to complete each step of the preparation process. Altogether, volunteer tax assistants work an average of six to eight hours a week during the tax season.

Woods said volunteers are paid by the experience they gain, as they sign an agreement that they will not take any money for their service. He also said an average of eight to 10 students, usually juniors and seniors, participate in the program.

The VITA program has existed for many years. Woods has been in charge of it for 23 years. He said the amount of tax returns the program does depends on the amount of people that come in. More than 400 returns are processed annually through the program. Woods also said that 80-85 percent of people who use the program's services are students.

Volunteer tax assistants not only use their calculators, forms and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) information packets, but also the skills they learned in tax classes such as Tax Accounting I.

"We take what we learned in the classroom and use it in a business setting," Scott said. "It would be a good experience, especially for those who are in tax classes or those who are getting ready to take those classes."

Scott said volunteering in the VITA program gives accounting majors the hands-on learning experience needed for classes, as well as valuable experience for resumes, future internships and careers.

"It's worth it, because I get to work with different people and it gives me some good experience when I get out and work in an internship with a firm," Scott said.

University Events

- Thurs. 19** ■ Career Services Interview Day
■ Boardgame Bonanza
- Fri. 20** ■ Fiesta de Culturas/ Fête des Cultures, 6 p.m., Union Ballroom
- Sat. 21** ■ MENC Junior, High/Middle School Music Festival
■ Women's basketball at Missouri Southern, 1:30 p.m.
■ Men's basketball at Missouri Southern, 3:30 p.m.
- Sun. 22** ■ Sunday Night Church, Union Ballroom, 9 p.m.
■ National Recreational and Fitness Day
■ Wind Symphony/Symphonic Band Winter Concert, 3 p.m., Charles Johnson Theatre
- Mon. 23** ■ IM Bowling entries due, noon
- Tues. 24** ■ Black Film Festival: "Glory," Union Boardroom, 7 p.m.
■ Undergraduate Research Recognition, 3:30 p.m., University Club, Union
- Wed. 25** ■ Student payday
■ Women's basketball vs. Missouri Western, 5:30 p.m.
■ Men's basketball vs. Missouri Western, 7:30

Spanish and French clubs host annual feast

By BURNEA COTHURNE
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Tomorrow Northwest Students will have a chance to celebrate in the 11th annual event of fine dining sponsored by the foreign language organizations Alpha Nu Gamma and Phi Sigma Iota.

This dining experience is known as the Feast of Cultures and is a six-course meal serving Spanish and French dishes. The meal is served by members of the foreign language organizations who will also be acting as hosts.

"The purpose of the Feast of Cultures is to introduce some type of diversity," graduate student Michaela Hand said. "We are trying to expose people to something new."

According to Louise Horner, assistant professor of communication, the

atre and language, this event has left a sufficient impression with the students at Northwest as well as the Maryville community.

"It has always been a good meal and program," Horner said. "We hope to give everyone another great experience."

These foreign language organizations are not the only participants in the feast; they plan to have entertainment provided by students in the University music department.

Horner said the show will feature two pianists performing French pieces, one pianist playing a Portuguese piece, two singers, one oboist and dancers from Folkloric of Latin America (FOLA). The music and entertainment will be performed throughout the six-course meal.

The menu for the Feast of Cultures starts with thyme and garlic soup and lentil salad. For the main course, chicken with tomato herb sauce or eggplant Acapulco style with tomatoes and cheese will be served along with broccoli, French bread and green salad. The meal will conclude with apple pie with a surprise layer.

"A lot of students find that it is worth it," Hand said. "We go and have a blast, meet new people; it's one of the best dinners of the year. It's partly unique because it has the food and the music in between."

The Feast of Cultures costs \$12 for students and \$15 for adults. Students can put half of the cost on their Aladine card. Tickets can be purchased from Louise Horner. For more information about the dinner, contact Horner at 562-1737.

Students make career moves

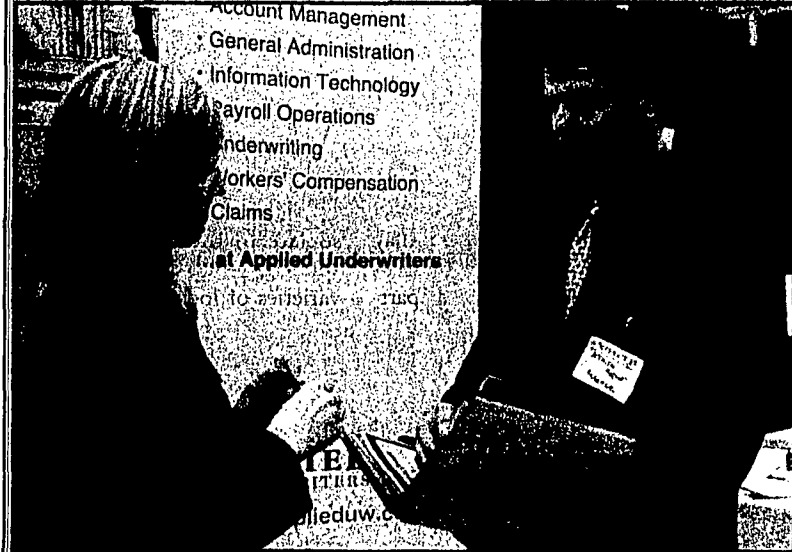


PHOTO BY LAURA CADY/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Ashish Kapoor reviews his resume while talking with Heidi Fleck, a representative from Applied Underwriters, at Career Day on Wednesday. The event took place in Bearcat Arena and featured over 80 companies with current employees to speak with.

Do you need help starting your career?

Career Services provides students an opportunity to feel comfortable with the job searching process free of charge. Personal advisors create individual plans for each student based on their career goals.

Their extensive resource library allow students to review job descriptions of their major, learn interview skills, create professional resumes and much more.

Students may also learn about opportunities on campus, as well as prospective employers visiting the campus when they utilize the Career Connections network. This network allows students to post their resume and search for jobs at no cost. For more information contact Career Services at 562-1250.

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Egg Rolls (2)	1.95
Crab Rangoons	3.25
Fried Chicken Wings	3.25
Fried Fantail Shrimp (8)	4.50
Bar-B-Que Ribs (4)	4.50
Cho-Cho Beef (4)	4.50
Cho-Cho Chicken (6)	4.50
Bo-Bo Platter (for 2)	6.95
(Egg Roll, Crab Rangoon, Fried Chicken Wings, Cho-Cho Beef, and Bar-B-Que Ribs)	
Biscuits (10)	2.50
Fried Dumplings (10)	3.95

Soups	
Egg Drop Soup	1.00
Hot & Sour Soup	1.00
Wonton Soup	1.00

House Specialties	
Triple Delight	5.50
General Tso's Chicken	5.50
Happy Family	5.50
Sweet & Sour Delight	5.50

Pork	
Sweet & Sour Pork	5.25
Szechuan Pork	5.25
Twice-Cooked Pork	5.25
Mapo Tofu	5.25

Beef	
Kung Pao Beef	5.25
Mongolian Beef	5.25
Beef w/ Vegetables	5.25
Beef w/ Snow Peas	5.25
Beef w/ Broccoli	5.25
Beef w/ Green Peppers	5.25

Vegetarian	
Mixed Chinese Vegetables	4.95
Beancurd Family Styles	4.95
Szechuan Vegetables	4.95

Ranch	
Sweet & Sour Chicken	5.25
Springfield Cashew Chicken	5.25
Cashew Chicken	5.25
Chicken w/ Vegetables	5.25
Szechuan Chicken	5.25
Princess Chicken	5.25

Ranch	
Sweet & Sour Shrimp	5.50
Cashew Shrimp	5.50
Peking Shrimp	5.50
Szechuan Shrimp	5.50
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Airport ready to undergo renovations

By JARED HOFFMANN
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Northwest Regional airport will soon be undergoing construction to offer new services to the community.

The city of Maryville is currently constructing a plan to renovate and make additions to the local airport. One major task will be the addition of a 3,000 square-foot terminal building onto the existing facility.

According to Assistant City Manager Matt Unrein, the new facility will serve many purposes to the University and community. A classroom/conference room is one function that the new building will serve. This room will be used for University events, aviation classes and community events to name a few.

"It's going to be a nice, up-to-date facility," Unrein said. "It will provide space for many types of community functions."

In addition to the conference room, other additions will include a pilot lounge, public area, restrooms and offices.

The university is supporting the construction process by supplying desks, chairs, screens and projectors upon completion of the new facility.

According to Ray Courter, vice-president of Finance at Northwest, the University will use a portion of its appropriation money to provide the airport with certain materials.

"We want to assist in this project by supplying the same quality materials we use on campus," Courter said. "The facility is in a state that needs improvement and we have an invested interest to help with that."

Another benefit of the renovation is the widening of runways to allow larger aircrafts to land at the airport.

"If we need to fly people in, they will no longer have to land at bigger airports and drive the rest of the way in," Courter said.

According to Unrein, the funding for the project will come from a \$660,000 economic stimulus grant issued to the city by Sen. Kit Bond.

The tentative start date for the project is in late October, and many factors will determine when the construction will be complete.

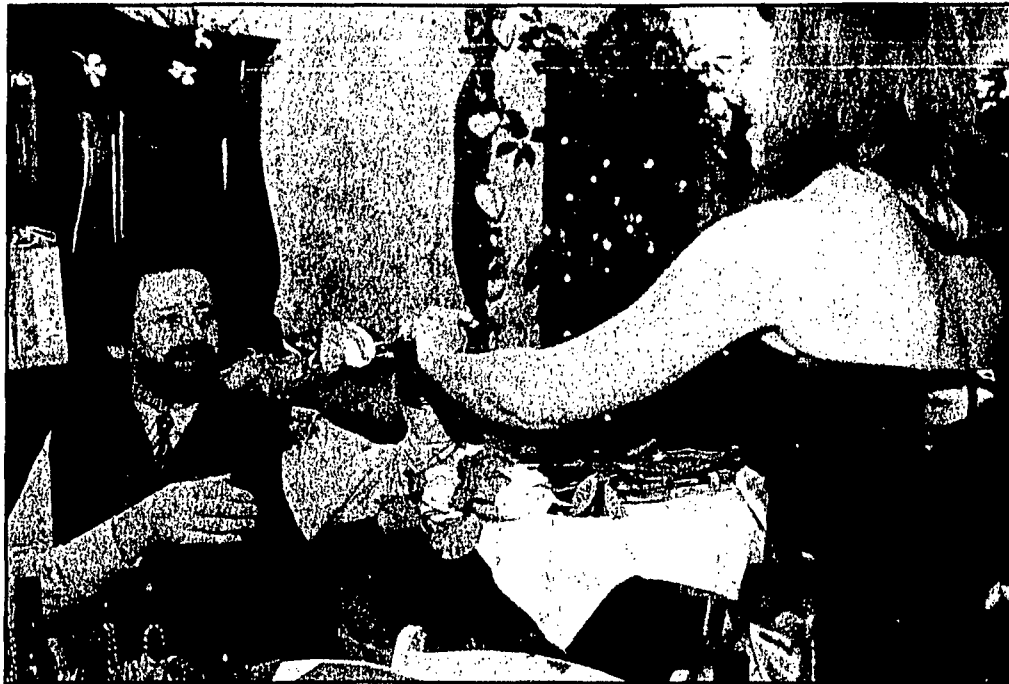


PHOTO BY NIKI CORDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Terry Morgan buys a rose for his wife, Kathy, from Pam Marticke at the annual St. Francis Gala. Proceeds from the event will benefit the construction fund for St. Francis Hospital.

St. Francis hosts annual fund-raiser

By JESSICA SWARTZ
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Pink balloons floated over each table as tuxedo-clad men and women in formal gowns dined on appetizers Saturday during the St. Francis Gala at Countryside Bistro.

Valentine's Day was the theme this year for the hospital's annual fund-raiser.

"We try to get it in the first quarter of the year, before everyone gets busy," said Rita Miller, community relations and development manager for St. Francis Hospital.

The event was composed of a dinner followed by a silent auction and dance. Raffle tickets were also sold.

According to Miller, more than \$1400 was raised from this year's silent auction. The raffle alone netted \$400.

According to Theresa Melnick, St. community relations coordinator at St. Francis, last year's fund-raiser collected \$3,000. Melnick also believes that this year's Gala is expected to double that number

in net income.

"Last year was the first year we had it," Melnick said. "We didn't have a raffle or an auction."

The president of the St. Francis Foundation, John Yancey, was also in attendance and was pleased with the support shown.

"We really appreciate people supporting the hospital," Yancey said.

This fund-raiser was a joint effort with St. Francis Auxiliary. Both the foundation and the auxiliary are non-profit organizations designed to raise money for St. Francis Hospital.

"It was a wonderful event," Miller said. "It was fun, plus we raised money for the foundation."

The foundation is already working on plans for its next fund-raiser, a golf tournament. The two-day event will fall on the Thursday and Friday before Memorial Day.

Last year, 400 people registered for the event, which raised \$58,000.

According to Miller, the proceeds from this year's golf tournament will go toward reinstating the special care unit at St. Francis Hospital.

Aquila offers \$30,000 in scholarships for area students

By ANTHONY STIENS
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

An area corporation is currently rewarding its customers and their children for academic studies.

Customers of Aquila, a Kansas City based gas and electric corporation, can take advantage of an offer by the company that will award 30 Northwest Missouri high school seniors the chance at a \$1000 scholarship.

According to Debbie Leonard, man-

ager of external affairs for Aquila, any senior who is in the top 25 percent of their class, has a parent who is an Aquila customer and are not employees of Aquila may apply for the scholarship.

According to Leonard, Aquila sets high standards on the community to better serve its customers.

"We want to give focus to area youth and education," she said.

Flyers have been mailed to area high schools, or applicants may download an application at Aquila's Web site,

www.aquila.com. Aquila will review the applications and notify the winners by mid-April.

Recipients must use the scholarship at a four-year institution or at a two-year institution with plans to transfer to a four-year institution.

With 300,000 clients in the area, Leonard said Aquila expects to receive several hundred applicants.

"In our first year, we started out with around 100 applicants," Leonard said. "Now the number of applicants has risen

to several hundred."

The Aquila Scholarship program began in 1983, giving out 20 scholarships to customers. With its rise in customers, Aquila has expanded the number over the years.

"We think this program is important because it allows us to support educated people in the community," said Judy Ness, senior manager of external affairs for Aquila.

The applications must be completed and turned in by March 19.

Maryville joins effort to prevent gun accidents

By SEAN COMER
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Safety-conscious parents may now be able to rest a bit easier.

Thanks to Project Childsafe, which began Feb. 12, local gun owners may now pick up free child-proof trigger locks at the Maryville Public Safety Department.

"We've given out in excess of 75 locks," said Maryville Public Safety Director Keith Wood. "People are excited to have the product available."

Thousands of children nationwide are accidentally hurt or killed by playing with guns in homes. Wood said Maryville experiences comparatively few such incidents, but the program is simply preventative in nature.

"People could buy them, but there

aren't many free ones," Wood said. "We may offer other products in the future, like setting up a booth in Wal-Mart, but right now, this is the only place they can be picked up for free."

According to Robert Schukei, an associate in the Maryville Wal-Mart sporting goods department, multiple varieties of locks are made. One is a case that fits over the trigger, while the other is a lock that makes it impossible to close the action of the gun. He also pointed out that most guns that Wal-Mart sells come with their own locks.

Local gun-owner and parent Michael Baysinger sees the locks as an effective safety measure.

"If it's locked, a kid can't pull the trigger," Baysinger said. "It's the safest thing I've seen. It keeps everyone safe."

Thaw yeah

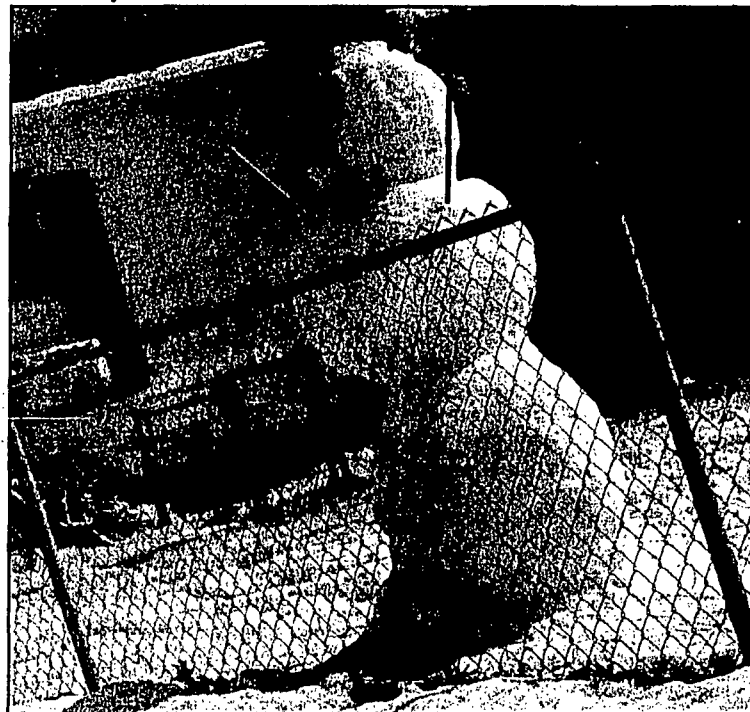


PHOTO BY LAURA CADDY/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
A snowman on Fourth Street struggles to survive in the warm temperatures that reached the Midwest yesterday. The high for Maryville was a balmy 50 degrees.

Community events

Thurs 19 ■ **Nodaway County Humane Society's Fund-raiser**, 7 p.m., Main Street/Coffee

Fri 20 ■ **PAGE**, 10 a.m., Maryville Community Center

Sat 21 ■ **Northwest Missouri Stockmen's Extravaganza**, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Hickory Hills Arena, Bethany

Sun 22 ■ **Maryville Youth Baseball Registration**, 2-4 p.m., Maryville Housing Authority Community Room
■ **Mardi Gras Brunch**, 8 a.m., St. Gregory's Church

Mon 23 ■ **Private Pesticide Applicators Training**, 8-5 p.m., Nodaway County Community Building

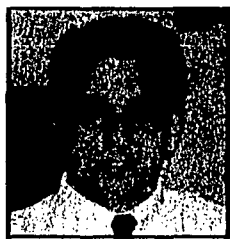
Tues 24 ■ **Fat Tuesday**
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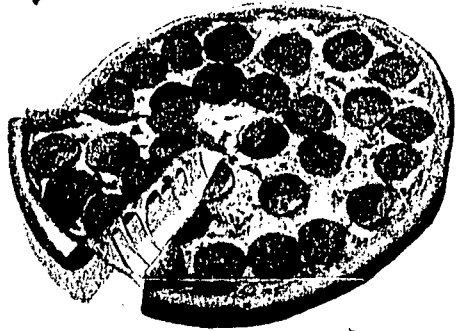
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Our View

Bad business?

Too many questions, not enough time remains before General Assembly brings merger proposal to the table.

As the merger with the University of Missouri system inches closer to becoming reality, opinions about whether it will be beneficial or detrimental to Northwest have been heard from Jefferson City to the nearest gas station.

Some legislators are for it, some are unsure and others feel it is simply not feasible with the budgetary problems in the state.

And after waiting months for answers that never materialized before finally taking a stance, we at *The Missourian* feel the merger has been pushed too fast, too aggressively and without enough questions answered. And for what it's worth, we are opposed to the merger at this time.

While we understand there is a need for biological research and doctoral programs in Northwest Missouri, the cons of joining the UM system outweigh the pros.

On a superficial level, seeing the big marble sign on the east side of campus being changed to "The University of Missouri-Northwest, est. 2004," is not appealing. Add that to the fact that students came to Northwest to avoid the massive UM campuses and inflated tuition, why would we want to join?

Secondly, one of Northwest's main pillars has been its affordability for students who may not otherwise have a chance to attend a respectable public university. Becoming a satellite of the UM system will alienate those students.

And as administrators have preached about "Culture of Quality," even before talk of the merger began, why do we need the UM system to continue that culture? 2003 marked our second year as Baldrige finalists—who's to say we can't do that again without being associated with the UM system?

Supporters of the merger will be quick to point out that nothing will change with the tradition of Northwest or the size of the campus. We beg to differ. After all, Northwest will lose a central voice when the Board of Regents will essentially be taken out of commission by handing over its duties to the UM Board of Curators, who are stationed 223 miles away in Columbia.

Although student apathy regarding the merger has been evident throughout the entire process, make no mistake about it: There are students who care. In fact, there has been a group of students armed with a petition of 236 signatures that has been lobbying against the merger right beneath their noses, but to no avail.

Yet, just because members of the Northwest and UM system administration think it is downhill from here, beware: You have not convinced the General Assembly. While he has yet to take an official stand on the issue, Rep. Brad Lager has publicly said he has not received enough answers to fully support the merger.

We feel that if Lager talks to just a few concerned students and community members, he will be able to make the right decisions in Jefferson City.

What's more, while the majority of the Regents support the merger, Lydia Hurst can not be put into that boat just yet. And as she voted against forwarding the merger on to the General Assembly for the second time in as many weeks, we applaud her efforts to seek the truth.

In the midst of the merger talks, little has been said by the faculty. The only question that has been raised, aside from retirement and benefits, is about research in general. However, if faculty are not confident in researching their respective fields, perhaps they shouldn't be at a university.

In addition, little concern has been shown by faculty regarding students' general welfare. Shouldn't that be at the top of their list?

Aside from the unanswered questions regarding research emphasis, tenured faculty, tuition increases and retirement systems, there are also, of course, the ethical issues.

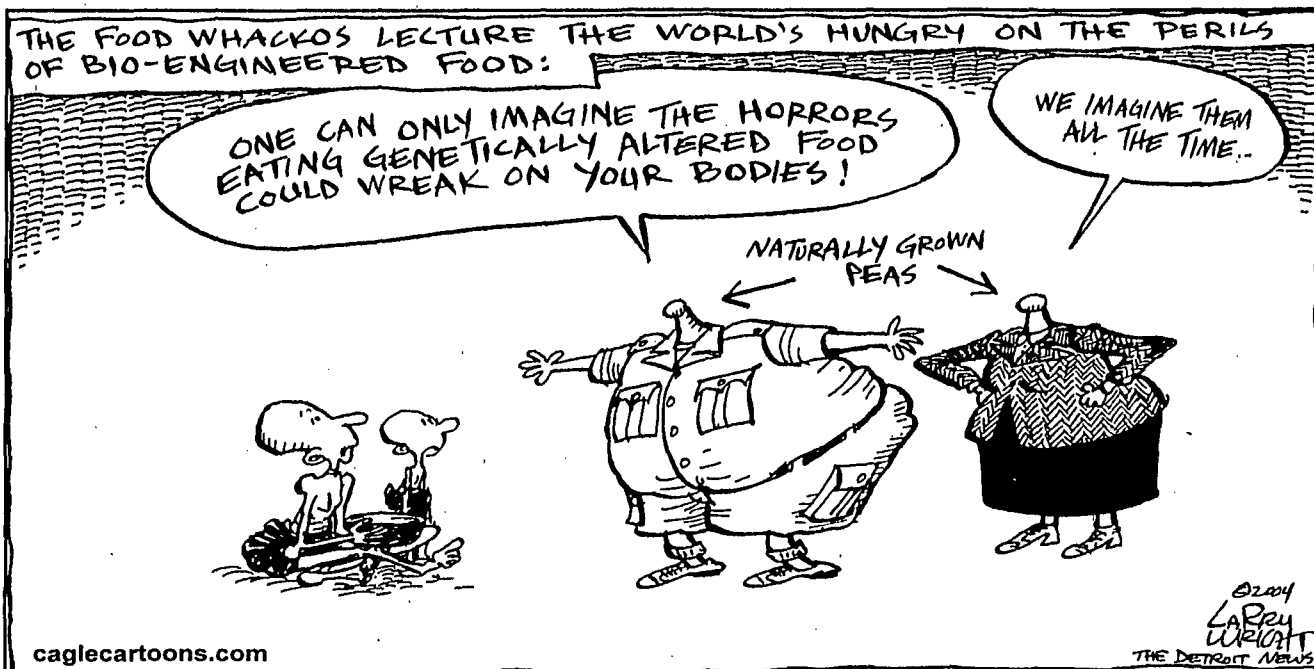
Just last fall UM system President Elson Floyd found himself in the middle of the Ricky Clemons fiasco, as his wife was making documented phone calls to him in his prison cell, and advised him to date members of a black sorority, not a white one. Floyd's voice was also heard on the conversations. It's also no surprise that parties at both universities have tried sweeping it under the rug.

For instance, when a *Missourian* reporter asked Floyd why Northwest should trust he or his administration, his only response was: "I really can't comment on what other people said." This brings an even more important question: Does Northwest want to have such backbiting attached to its name?

And, of course, one can't avoid the issue of funding for President Dean Hubbard's 37 percent increase in salary should Northwest merge with the UM system. Both Floyd and Hubbard have been tight-lipped when questioned about where that money will come from, as Northwest's largest entity, The Northwest Foundation, has not received any information about the pay raise. Isn't that an issue that should have been addressed before it was voted on by the Board of Regents?

And the list goes on. We at *The Missourian* have only scratched the surface of thousands of unanswered questions—which, by the way, can't be easily answered by a 15-point Memorandum of Understanding, which doesn't even qualify as a legal agreement.

And now, as students and community members, it is up to you to seek that information and let your voice be heard. It's our past, present and future at stake.



Banning gay marriage would be un-American

This country is bitterly divided over the issue of same-sex marriages once again. You would think that eventually we would learn our lesson.

After last month's decision by the Massachusetts Supreme Court to recognize gay marriages, conservatives as well as various religious and "family" groups are up in arms, claiming our nation's values are being compromised. And now, Ohio has essentially banned same-sex marriages by becoming the 38th state to recognize the Defense of Marriage Act, which contains a clause defining marriage strictly as a union between a man and a woman.

It's clearly obvious that we need to recognize that all citizens are created equal and that the issue needs to be addressed at a federal level by mandating all states to allow and recognize same-sex marriages.

As Americans, we must strive for equality of all our fellow citizens and destroy segregational boundaries within our society. Yet the majority of our politicians—including our president—are calling for the use of the constitutional process to ban gay mar-

My View
AARON BAILEY
COMMUNITY NEWS
EDITOR



riages. President Bush went as far as to say the issue of gay marriages is "deeply troubling." These bigoted and ignorant statements coming from Bush's mouth are distasteful and offensive.

How is suppressing the rights of a segment of our society forwarding American ideology or protecting our moral integrity? If a gay couple wishes to get married, they should have that right, just like any other citizen. By not allowing homosexuals the rights of every other American, we're creating second-class citizens—and that's unacceptable.

The opponents of same-sex marriage say that marriage should only be between a man

and a woman and that's the way it's always been. But things change. Our society has changed and we must evolve. Who has the right to define marriage? Marriage should have nothing to do with a man and a woman—it's about love, commitment, fidelity, honesty and trust. Who are we to define the "sanctity" of marriage when half of all marriages end in divorce?

Perhaps the most troubling issue is that few politicians have had the nerve to stand up and say that banning gay marriages is wrong and that civil unions are just tokens establishing a "separate and unequal" president. And while yes, the majority of Americans disapprove of gay marriages (about 60 percent according to the latest Gallup poll), the majority isn't always right. Until we as a nation can see this issue and others without religious and so-called "moral" blinders, we will never fully rid our country of inequality.

We need to keep religion and warped misconceptions of morality and virtue out of the constitution. If someone wants to denounce homosexuals as inferior or sub-human, they should do so on their own time.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Suppressing opinions insults students, faculty

DISCLAIMER: The following letter is from a faculty member. However, the views expressed therein do not reflect those of his academic department, or of the Northwest Administration. In fact, the first two paragraphs do not even represent the views of the author (it's called satire).

I read with fascination Hawkeye Wilson's letter regarding faculty expressing their opinions in *The Missourian*. He makes a valid point, but he doesn't seem to understand how the world works. Of course we seek to impose our own agendas on our students! If I'm not forcefully converting students to my point of view and suppressing their independent ideas, then I'm not being true to the hidden agenda of my radical profession. We in academia—and naturally I speak for all of us—are not interested in discourse, nor in critical thinking. Thinking and asking questions is overrated; just give us students who will soak up and regurgitate whatever we tell them. Students should be seen, but not heard; should be interested, but not interesting. When I tell my students, "I'm not interested

in what you think, I care that you do think," naturally I'm lying.

For example, in the column immediately above Mr. Wilson's letter, Sean Comer accuses Democratic presidential front-runner John Kerry of "sinking to a new low" regarding President Bush's National Guard record. But the facts are that Kerry didn't raise the issue and has actually avoided discussing it. I could simply note that Mr. Comer's statements are poor journalism. But since I'm on the faculty, why stop there? I'll just advise Mr. Comer that should he take one of my classes, he will fail. That'll show him!

OK, now I'm being serious. I do not doubt that some college professors do what Mr. Wilson fears, and it's wrong. That being said, I consider Mr. Wilson's letter an insult—to Northwest, to me, to my colleagues and especially to our students. First, I value student opinion because critically examining one's own ideas and the ideas of others is the best way to learn; this is true for students and faculty alike (that means we learn from our

students). Second, I don't presume to speak for my colleagues any more than Mr. Wilson speaks for the Class of 1996. I'm embarrassed that an alumnus could think otherwise. Third, I tell my students in every class that their ideas matter and that they will not be graded on their opinions. Punishing students for disagreeing with me outside of class would not only be hypocritical, it would be a monumental waste of time.

When I write a letter to *The Missourian*, just like anyone else, I'm putting my opinions out there for students to read, discuss and criticize. A newspaper is an open forum—a level playing field by definition. Our students understand this without a "disclaimer"; it's part of the Northwest culture. That faculty are willing to join the forum shows respect for students. Perhaps Mr. Wilson should do the same.

DAN SMITH
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF HISTORY,
HUMANITIES, PHILOSOPHY AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE

Alumnus deems activities fee proposal inappropriate

I read with great interest the latest *Northwest Missourian* online edition on the proposal to charge students a fee of either \$25 or \$50 per trimester in order to have better concerts and on-campus activities. Even though such fees are not much, such a proposal seems hostile to most students, as it will be made a permanent, non-academic cost for students who wish to study at Northwest.

In the first place, it does not promote fairness to all students, even though they will decide by voting. Secondly, why does Northwest need to implement such a fee even if other colleges are doing the same? How many of these activities or concerts will meet the needs or choices of students at Northwest? This is a "Catch-22" question. As an alumnus

of Northwest, I am not against any activities that will improve the knowledge or quality of life for students. In fact, I am encouraging students of Northwest to participate or attend any form of suitable entertainment and activities to promote their wellness in knowledge and life.

But why, for example, does a student need to pay what I consider an "administrative" fee in addition to other ticket prices or costs? Perhaps Student Senate should look into how they could raise funds for the costs to have better entertainment and on-campus activities. They should consider ideas such as creating a business unit that runs like any business entity, to generate income or funds. This idea can promote entrepreneurship and creativity among stu-

dents as they may rely on what they have learned on how to manage a business and meet customer needs. They can solicit funds, seek sponsorship or form partnership with some organizations to run events. Of course, I am sure the Board of Regents would be supportive of these ideas, as they have proven successful when I was a student at Northwest.

Let's not be a follower and start doing the same as other colleges. Rather, let's focus on doing something that has been proven a successful business model and strive to continuously improve that model.

WILLIAM CHEONG
1991 NORTHWEST ALUMNUS
MALAYSIA

YOUR VIEW

How do you deal with midterm stress?



"I take one thing at a time. I write down everything I have to do. I don't pile too much, I take breaks when needed."

April Baerga
Psychology/
Sociology



"I study a lot and pray that I do my best."

Lori Stumme
Industrial
Psychology



"I don't really have a lot of midterm stress. For the most part, I just schedule my time, take breaks when I need to and have a little fun every now and then. I just keep in mind that I'm here for academics first."

Nathan Whittington
Psychology/
Sociology



"Avoid studying and play PlayStation, get plenty of sleep and plenty of food."

Ryan Williams
Dietetics



"Go out on the town for a night. Go out and do something with friends."

Travis Harman
Agricultural
Business



"Since I've been here I haven't really had much stress during midterms, but when I do, I just take a break until I'm ready to start studying again."

Stephanie Swift
Special
Education/
Elementary
Education

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Questions? Comments about *The Northwest Missourian*? Story idea? We would like to hear from you. If you do not find the person you need on the right, please contact Abby Simons at 660-562-1224, by fax at 660-562-1521, by e-mail at northwestmissourian@hotmail.com or write us at 800 University Drive, Wells Hall 6, Maryville, MO 64468.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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CONTINUED from 1A

Signing of joint agreement brings Northwest close to merger

"Northwest Missouri State University will be a wonderful partner with the University of Missouri in the advancement of dollars, intellectual inquiry, research, scholarships, creative activities and economic development that will be renowned to our collective benefit as we build and sustain a great world-class university," Floyd said.

While questions still surround the merger, Floyd is confident this is the right move for Northwest and the UM system.

"This is truly a remarkable occasion; for this merger is recommended simply because it is the right thing to do," he said.

Before Hubbard, Floyd, Board of Regent President Jim Johnson and Board of Curators President Mary James signed the memorandum. Regent Lydia Hurst voted against it.

Hurst, the lone Regent opposed to the merger at this point, still questions the Resource Allocation Model that determines how much money the UM campuses—St. Louis, Columbia, Kan-

sas City and Rolla—are given.

"There still are a lot of questions that need to be answered," Hurst said. "I still feel strongly about that."

Just last week, Southwest Missouri State University's proposed name change to Missouri State University and Missouri Western State College's proposed change to become a university both died in the house.

District 4 State Representative Brad Lager admitted that the effects of the bill would certainly have an impact on the merger.

"The reality is, I think it's fair to say that the name change bill failing does impact how we are going to be able to move this bill," Lager said. "Southwest Missouri has a large number of people in the house with 28 (representatives)...the only way to move any bill that you're successful with is when having their votes in the house."

While Sen. David Klindt said he is going to introduce the bill into Senate, Lager would not yet say whether he was

in support of the bill or not, but that he had no intentions of killing the bill.

"I believe one can very strongly argue there are great benefits for becoming part of the system, so I do believe that ultimately, this is probably a good thing for Northwest Missouri," Lager said. "But what I'm also very cautious of is I want to make sure before I stand anywhere and say this a great deal or this is not a great deal, that I have done my duty to diligently work through the process."

Lager expressed doubt that anyone from Columbia would sponsor the bill. But he said he is just scratching the surface.

"We're beginning the educational process, not only for myself but for my colleagues and the people (in Maryville)," Lager said. "I need to make sure we have ample time to get questions answered. My goal is to spend now until spring break talking to people and I will make a decision when I come back (at the of March)."

CONTINUED from 1A

Road workers get busy fixing excess number of potholes

Though a significant increase in damage to streets cannot be determined until all the snow clears, Decker expects an increase in the number of potholes because of the excess moisture this winter.

Regardless of damages, the street maintenance department remains ready if more snow should fall. They are equipped with six snowplows, two road graders, two salt trucks, 10 full-time workers and 40 tons of salt.

In addition, Decker said that in the event of extreme snowfall he doubles staff, bringing in ten more employees from Mozingo Lake, Maryville Parks and Recreation and the Water Maintenance Department.

Decker estimated that 3,340 hours of labor were already poured into snow removal between Feb. 2 and Feb. 8 alone.

Some Maryville residents helped ease the workload.

"We appreciate when people move their vehicles off the roadways," Decker said. "If we have to plow around every vehicle, it's almost impossible to remove the snow."

An employee from street maintenance is always available to handle road hazards.

"Anyone can call Public Safety and an on-call guy will go out and salt the road or take care of the concern," Decker said. "Even if it's three o'clock on a Saturday morning."

According to Decker, Public Works holds only good intentions.

"This is our community too," he said. "We take pride in what we do, so we work hard to maintain the streets. We have someone monitoring them at all times and watching the forecast closely. Our ultimate goal is public safety."

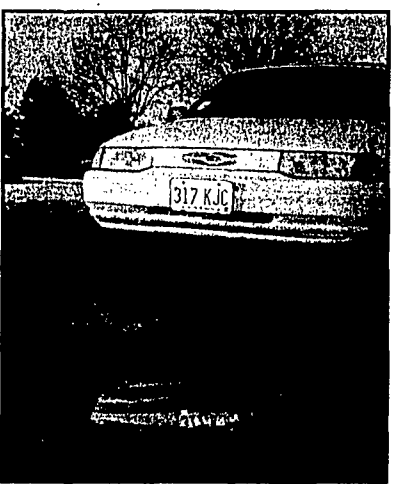


PHOTO BY NIKI CARDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Melting snow and ice has resulted in potholes that riddle Maryville's streets. Patching and repairing them has proven costly for the city.

CONTINUED from 1A

Activities Fee passes by a slim margin of 30 votes, awaits approval

"I would like a recommendation from Student Senate," Dix said. "So then we can move forward with it to the cabinet and the board."

Then, Dix said she will make a presentation to the cabinet in the next few weeks. By the March meeting of the Board of Regents, she hopes to present

the fee to board members for them to vote on it.

However, Dix said changes could be made to the fee as it is discussed by the cabinet and board. The board has the final approval of the activities fee.

If the Board of Regents approves the fee in March, next fall trimester

full-time students enrolled in 12 hours or more will pay \$50 per trimester. All part-time students taking 11 hours or less will be charged \$25 per trimester. The fee will be charged directly to students' accounts each fall and spring trimester. Students will not be able to opt out of the fee.

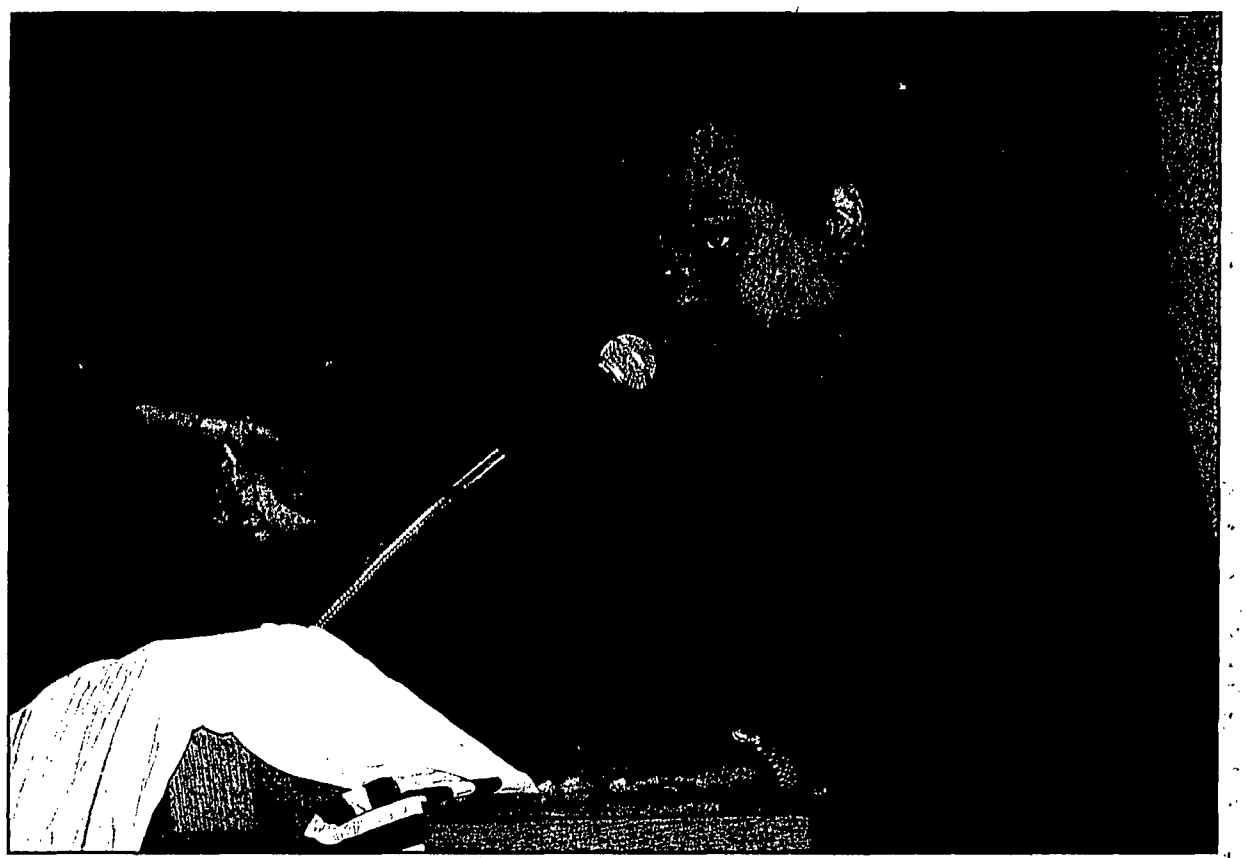


PHOTO BY LAURA CADY/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Daryl Davis relates his experiences with the Ku Klux Klan to the Northwest audience at the Charles Johnson Theatre Monday. In the foreground is a robe given to Davis by a former Klan member. "The face of America is changing very rapidly and we need to know how to get along," he said.

CONTINUED from 1A

Author speaks about the reality of racism and the Klan

"This was the first time for Kelly to socialize with a black man," Davis said.

During the progression of their friendship, Kelly was promoted to Imperial Wizard, the highest form of leader in the Klan.

From then on Kelly frequently invited Davis to Klan rallies. In 1994, CNN accompanied Davis to a Klan rally and taped the interaction of Kelly with Davis during his speech. As the audience watched the clip from CNN, they saw Davis talking and interacting with the Klan member while people, protested against the Klan members' presence.

As Kelly shook Davis's hand he screamed to the crowd, "I have more respect for this man right here than any of you white niggers out there."

Northwest senior Torri Harris said she was confused about the relationship of Davis with the Klan members.

"He went to the KKK rallies and he was just like one of them," Har-

ris said. "They were hypocrites, they didn't like black people, but they accepted him."

For the past 10 years Davis has formed many unexpected relationships with Klan members. His journey into a world unknown has given him the opportunity to teach the Klan about his race.

"What I have learned is that while you are actively learning about someone else, you are passively teaching them about yourself," Davis said.

Davis played the piano for the audience and explained how music brings the people together. The harmony of the music settles in your soul and helps you forget about all the trivial things.

"Music brought me together with the KKK years ago," Davis said. "As I look for harmony in music, I also look for harmony in people."

Davis encouraged the audience to build a platform for people to learn about one another. His lec-

ture enforced change in race relations in America.

"The face of America is changing very rapidly and we need to know how to get along," Davis said.

As for Fraser, he doesn't plan on attending any rallies but admired Davis's courage to confront the Klan.

"I found him interesting because of the bravery it took to be the only black man in the middle of a Klan rally," Fraser said. "I've never heard of a black person actually talking to members of the Klan and taking time to listen to their views."

CORRECTIONS

■ In the Feb. 12 edition of *The Northwest Missourian*, the story entitled "The beginning of big names" failed to properly identify Student Senate President Emily Dix. The same story also incorrectly reported that students could vote for the Activities Fee on WebStar. Students could only vote via their campus e-mail. *The Northwest Missourian* apologizes for those errors.

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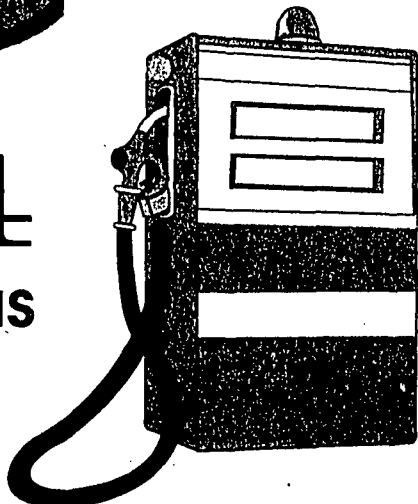
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Renting horror stories demonstrate a need to learn the law

By BETSY LEE
FEATURES EDITOR

As winter began to wrap itself around Maryville, covering the ground with snow and ice, Zoe Shunick began to realize that there was something very wrong with her apartment.

Huddled under a wealth of blankets, she lied on her couch, struggling to keep warm.

"All winter I had no heat," Shunick said. "I could see my breath sometimes. If I stayed in my room at all I would be on the couch with 10 blankets and I would still be cold."

Shunick lived in a house that was converted to accommodate several apartments. She said she had no access to a thermostat, which was located at the center of the home. She repeatedly contacted her landlord but the problem was never resolved.

"He said he was going to plastic the windows," she said. "But he only did two of them. It never got better."

Eventually, Shunick was forced to move out, forfeiting her security deposit.

According to Jennifer Soper, managing attorney at the Legal Aid of Western Missouri, Shunick's story is an example of why students need to know their rights.

"There are several things she could have done," Soper said. "It's up to the landlord to keep a building up to code and to make sure that it has adequate heat in the winter."

Soper said students need to be familiar with their rights as renters before they sign a lease.

"It's important that students know how to protect themselves," Soper said. "Unfortunately, there are landlords who will take advantage of people."

Knowing her rights benefited recent Northwest graduate Kadie Johnson. Johnson moved out of her apartment in Maryville after graduation and, after 60 days, she had still not received her security deposit. The law requires that landlords contact renters within 30 days to either return the deposit or to provide reasons why money was withheld.

When Johnson finally heard from her landlord, she was notified that more than \$300 was being withheld from her deposit.

"That's a lot of money when you have just graduated from college," Johnson said.

Johnson eventually recovered her full deposit plus \$100 after consulting the attorney that she was working for at the time.

"I was so lucky that I was working for her, otherwise I would have never known what the laws were," she said.

To avoid renting problems, Maryville Code Enforcement Officer James Wiederholt recommends using good common sense.

"You've got to look beyond the location and whether or not it's a good party spot," Wiederholt said. "Look carefully at the place, make sure it's clean and that there isn't mold and mildew everywhere."

Though most renters expect their residence to be clean before moving in, remember to make the request. Cindy Hunt, an area landlord, said she sometimes rents out homes that haven't been fully cleaned. Hunt said that in one or two instances she has waived a security deposit in lieu of cleaning the residence.

"I don't have too many college kids that really want the place cleaned up before they move in," Hunt said.

One notable building code that renters need to pay attention to is the installation of smoke detectors. Each home should have a smoke detector on every floor, including the basement. In addition, smoke detectors should be present in every bedroom or in each bedroom area.

"Smoke detectors in homes save lives," Wiederholt said. "Chances for survival increase by 50 percent if the home has a detector."

Keep in mind that Maryville does not have a renters' code that requires annual inspections. Public Works Director Greg Decker said requiring inspections might be a good idea for Maryville.

"I suppose it would be valuable, but who would enforce it?" Decker said.

Jeannine Gaa, a local landlord, said she also believes an annual inspection of rental homes would be a good idea.

"It would make sure that things are safe and up to code," Gaa said. "And no matter where you were looking to rent, you would know it was safe."

Hunt, however, said she would not support an annual inspection policy.

"If they are going to go into rentals, they should go through all the homes in Maryville," Hunt said. "It's discrimination. I live in a house built in 1901 and I'll be honest and say that it's not up to code."

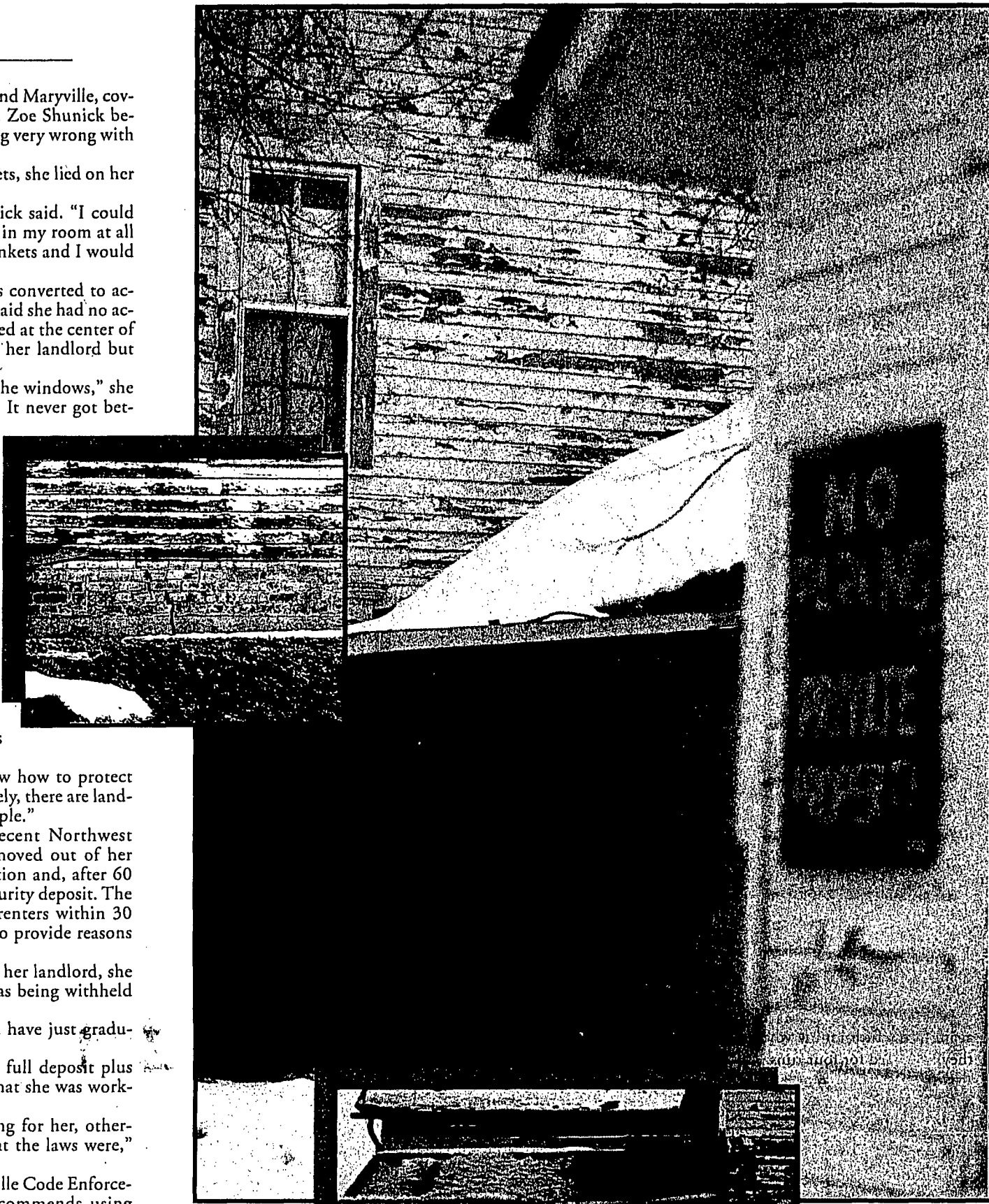
Hunt said she believes the city should require more of renters before they inspect. Currently, a resident needs to call the city with a code complaint for an inspection to occur. Hunt said the city should require that residents prove they live in the residence in ques-

tion. "If you don't live there, you shouldn't be inviting the city into someone else's home," Hunt said. "People will do anything to get even."

Having knowledge of the codes and landlord-tenant law can help prevent any incidents requiring the city's intervention. Wiederholt believes that educating prospective renters about their rights is an important issue, something he wishes Northwest would push a little more.

Knowledge of her rights as a renter might have helped Shunick get heat, or at least retain her security deposit. Since moving out in January, Shunick has found a new apartment, one where she feels comfortable with her living situation.

"I love it here," she said. "It's warm."



PHOTOS BY BETSY LEE/
FEATURES EDITOR

A cracked foundation and/or slanting roof can be a sign of other structural problems. If city inspectors deem that the residence needs repairs, a yellow notice, like the one on the home above, will be posted.

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1,500 AND COUNTING

Senior Kelvin Parker surpassed the 1500 point mark in his Northwest career on Saturday night.

The Raytown, Mo. native scored 22 points to finish the game with 1,502 career points.

Parker ranks fifth on the all-time list for points just behind Joe Hurst with 1,580.

On the year, Parker is averaging 18.7 points a game to lead the MIAA in scoring.

Parker is also in the top five in the league in three other offensive categories.

THIS WEEKEND

Northwest Men at Missouri Southern

Where: Leggett and Platt Athletic Center, Joplin
When: 3:30 p.m. Saturday following women's game.

Last time: Northwest had no problems with the Lions the last time the two matched up. The Bearcats came away with a 72-55 win improving their overall record to 13-0.



Parker

Why does it matter? Northwest could easily look past the Lions and ahead to the showdown next week with Missouri Western; something they cannot afford to do in the MIAA.

Northwest Women at Missouri Southern

Where: Leggett and Platt Athletic Center, Joplin
When: 1:30 p.m., Saturday

Last time: Northwest rode the hot shooting of senior center Sarah Vollertsen and rolled to a 70-51 win over the Lions. Vollertsen finished the game with 23 points and 10 rebounds.



Vollertsen

Wykeha Harrell led the Lions with 14 points she was one of three Missouri Southern players who finished in double figures.

Why does it matter? Missouri Southern is playing the hottest team in the MIAA. Last week they held a hot-shooting Emporia State squad to 45 points, a mark well below their normal level.

Northwest has no room to give in the MIAA conference race as it heads into its final weekend.

SPOOFHOUND SUMMARIES

THIS WEEK

Maryville Boys 40 vs. St. Pius 47

Josh Wilmes scored 19 points in the loss.

Maryville Girls 37 vs. Benton 43

Kelli Dawson and Kim Wolfer led with 10 points each.

'Cats drop key game against Washburn

No.6 Northwest falls to No.5 Washburn 80-59; Parker held to 6 points

By BILL KNUST
SENIOR REPORTER

TOPEKA, Kan. — The first two possessions of the second half summed up Kelvin Parker's night in an 80-59 loss to

Washburn.

The Bearcats got the ball out of bounds, Parker drove to the elbow of the free-throw line, pulled up and had his shot blocked by Washburn guard Jerad Head. The next time down the floor Parker had his entry pass into the post stolen and he committed a foul on the other end of the floor.

To make things worse, for the second time in three games, Parker failed to score in double figures. He finished the night

3-for-19 with six points and three turnovers.

"I think once he started missing some shots, he tried to press and hit the panic button, but he wasn't the only one that did that tonight," men's head coach Steve Tappmeyer said.

But Parker was not the only reason the Bearcats lost Wednesday. They shot just 28 percent in the first half and made only nine total shots. They finished the game shooting just 30 percent from the field and made only 5-

of-22 turnovers.

A lot of that had to do with Washburn's defense.

"Our defensive intensity tonight was tremendous," Washburn head coach Bob Chipman said. "I mean, we held them to 23 points in the first half. I know they missed some easy ones, but we played well."

Northwest also had trouble containing the post play of Ichabod center Travis Robbins. He lit the Bearcats up for 17

points, all coming in the second half.

"That's our strength," Washburn forward J.P. Meitner said. "Troy (Douglas) and Travis are so hard to guard inside and we just try and get them the ball. That causes teams to go to a zone and then we can start hitting from the outside."

The Ichabods started to pull away with 4:04 to go in the first half. Robbins' inside play sparked a half-closing 14-3 run and gave Washburn a 36-23

lead.

They continued the run to begin the second half and stretched their lead to 25 points before Northwest made their last run.

Sophomore forward Austin Meyer scored 10 straight points for the 'Cats and cut the Ichabods' lead to 55-38 with a three-pointer. Although he fouled out, Meyer finished with a game-high 18 points to lead the 'Cats. Junior guard Sky Wilson also

(Please see 'Cats' page 2B)

Squad wins series; Gallagher homers

By COLE YOUNG
SPORTS EDITOR

The Northwest baseball team started their 2004 season with a series win at Northeastern Oklahoma.

Northwest, ranked No.26 in the nation, won 2-of-3 games over the Redmen.

Before the opener head coach Darin Loe said the 'Cats would likely struggle offensively to start the year off and that they did.

Northwest was held scoreless for the first six innings while giving up six runs.

Pitcher Alex Budden took the loss in the Bearcats 6-1 defeat.

In the second game Saturday, Northwest's offense came alive. The Bearcats jumped out to a 6-0 lead before holding off the Redmen's rally at the end, taking a 6-5 win.

Jeremy Tappmeyer earned the win for Northwest. Matt Coons picked up his first save

of the year.

The two squads met up for a final matchup Sunday, with the series tied at a game apiece.

Northwest got off to a quick start in the first inning, when Drew Metille and Andrew Donovan singled with two outs.

Kyle Gallagher then homered for the Bearcats to give them a 3-0 lead to start the game.

The Redmen were able to get one run back in their portion of the first inning.

Northwest was able to add another run in the second inning when Seth Evans scored after initially being hit by a pitch.

In the third inning Ryley Westman homered for the Bearcats to give them a 5-1 lead.

The Bearcats would strike again in the fifth inning when they unloaded for four runs.

Gallagher, Donovan, Brad Schwartz. (Please see 'Baseball' page 2B)



Senior Erica Hatterman gets her shot blocked against Washburn on Wednesday night. Hatterman and the Bearcats fell to the No.13 Washburn Ichabods 66-57 at Lee Arena. Hatterman scored 16 points to lead the Bearcats. Northwest travels to Joplin this weekend to take on the Missouri Southern Lions.

'Hounds get by Benton, knocked off by St. Pius X

By SCOTT HILL
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

The 'Hounds got a big win in St. Joseph last week, defeating the Benton Cardinals—but not before being stretched to the limits.

Maryville was able to get through a tough fourth quarter and force overtime to win the game 57-50. It was the second time in five days the 'Hounds found themselves in a double overtime thriller and this time they were determined to have a different result. The 'Hounds lost a heart-breaker Feb. 9 against Chillicothe 63-58.

The game featured two evenly matched teams, both in contention for the conference title and neither of which were willing to give an inch. Neither the 'Hounds nor the Cardinals ever led by more than seven points at any point in the game.

Maryville was trailing late in the game and had been struggling to hit their shots when Senior Nate Morley sparked a late Spoofhound charge by draining a three-pointer. The game was notched 40-40 at the end of regulation.

The first overtime was played. (Please see 'Hounds' page 3B)

Bearcats lose road game to Lady Blues; Northwest, Washburn tied for second

By BILL KNUST
SENIOR REPORTER

TOPEKA, Kan. — With Sarah Vollertsen in the lineup the No. 17 ranked Northwest women are great. Without her they are still pretty good, just not great.

A 66-57 loss Wednesday night to Washburn was a perfect example of that.

With the senior center plagued by foul trouble, the 'Cats were hammered on the boards by the Lady Blues 53-34, did not lead past the 15:05 mark of the second half, shot just 26 percent from the field in the second half

and still had a chance to win the game.

Regardless of the rebounding disadvantage, women's head coach Gene Steinmeyer said four minutes of play in the second half cost his team the game.

"We panicked," Steinmeyer said. "We looked like we were on top of a burning building and couldn't wait to get out. We took junior high shots and lost people on defense."

Those four minutes took place with Vollertsen on the bench in foul trouble. She entered the second half with two fouls, but wasted little time

picking up her fourth just 2:41 into the second half.

The 'Cats still led 30-27 when she departed and had a 35-32 lead before Washburn junior guard Juwanna Rivers hit a pair of three-pointers to tie the game.

Rivers' back-to-back three pointers triggered a 13-0 run for the Lady Blues and gave them a 45-35 lead.

"It was frustrating watching from the bench because I picked up two stupid fouls early," Vollertsen said.

Northwest scrapped to get back in the game and

Vollertsen entered back into the game with 8:45 left. She wasted little time cutting into the Washburn lead, scoring eight points to help cut the deficit to four, 54-50.

But that was as close as the 'Cats would get. They finished 3-for-19 from the three-point line and shot just 6-for-10 from the free-throw line.

The first half was full of momentum shifts and saw the 'Cats head into halftime with a 26-25 lead, despite being outrebounded 23-13.

While they may have struggled. (Please see 'Bearcats' page 2B)

Road Trip: Five wrestlers hope trip yields state champions

Three seniors, junior and sophomore qualify for state tournament

By COLE YOUNG
SPORTS EDITOR

When five Maryville wrestlers take to the mats at the Class 1 State Wrestling Championships today they will take five different stories with them.

Two of the five have never even seen state championships, let alone wrestled in them. One wasn't even sure if he would be wrestling at the district tournament until two nights before the tour-

nament.

Maryville's hopes for an individual state title lie with 145-pound junior Skyler Vandiver.

Vandiver was suspended from the team a week before districts because of an incident he was accused of taking part in. That situation is something the 145-pounder has learned from.

"I'm not going to take it for granted," Vandiver said. "I know I had the chance not to be here. I'm just glad I get to be here."

While he is ranked third in his weight class thanks to the way the bracket is set up, he is in a favorite to make it to the title match.

The top two rated wrestlers (Devin Mason from

Knob Noster and Cabor Long from Higginsville) both fall on the other side of the bracket, meaning a chance at the title is well within Vandiver's reach.

"I would be real excited if that happens," Vandiver said. "If I wrestle like I should, I can get there."

As a sectional champ, Vandiver will face off against a wrestler who finished fourth in sectionals. Going into districts as a four seed is something 152-pound senior Joseph Drake knows about.

Drake, who qualified for state last year, will face off a sectional champ. While he may not have gotten the best draw, the experience he brings to the tournament may help him more than just in his match. (Please see 'Championships' page 3B)



Senior Joseph Drake works on a move against David Bombara during wrestling practice Tuesday afternoon. The 'Hounds start first-round wrestling action today at the Hearn Center with championships taking place Saturday.

Helms one of several who had big day at Prairie Wolf

By JEROME BOETTCHER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The indoor track team not only came away with great performances Friday, but also with some surprises.

Junior Gabriel Helms continued his streak of top finishes as he won the 60-meter dash yet again. He had finished fifth in the preliminaries but managed to pull out a first place finish. He finished second in the 200-meter run with his fastest time of the season at 21.61. He also set his season best time in the 60-meter with 6.78 seconds. Helms was also named as one of the MIAA Indoor Track Athletes of the Week days before the meet. He received the honor once again this week.

"It feels good. It's a lot of hard work paying off," Helms said. "I feel like right now my running is coming along, my times are dropping and that's what I have to do, I have to keep my times dropping."

Earlier in the year, Helms said that he wasn't satisfied with his performances. However, he said if his

times keep dropping he will be satisfied with the season.

"Right now I'm just focusing on dropping my times and just running faster," he said.

Senior Dan McKim took first in the weight throw and fourth in the shot put. Freshman Anthony Jackson took second place in the long jump while freshman Diezeas Calbert took sixth place. In the track events, freshman E.J. Faulkner took third in the 200-meter dash. Senior Kyle Keras took second in the 800-meter run while sophomore Eric Isley placed sixth.

A few days before the meet the men's team was ranked fourth in the nation. Coach Richard Alsup said he didn't believe his team was that affected performance-wise by the ranking. He did say that the team was "proud of it." Conference rivals CMSU and Emporia are ranked first and third respectively.

On the women's side, sophomore Alisha Samuels' performance was almost identical to Helms' performance. She finished first in the 60-meter dash

after finishing fifth in the preliminaries. She lowered her provisional qualifying mark. Freshman Kailea Cook took eighth in the event. Samuels also finished second in the 200-meter dash. Junior Steph Suntken won the 800-meter run and just barely missed provisionally qualifying for nationals.

"At the beginning of the season that really did kind of bother me, but now I'm just having fun with it," Suntken said. "It's there, but it's in the back of my mind. I'm not worrying about it. If it happens it happens; if it doesn't it doesn't."

Senior Betsy Lee took sixth place in the mile to finish with one of her best times of the year. Junior Keelin Baine, who overcame injury, took seventh in the 600-yard run.

Graduate assistant Raylene Ross said that she was pleased with the performances of her athletes who had better weeks than they usually do, especially Baine.

"It was great for her to come back and run in the 600 to see where she is and where she needs to be," Ross said. "Betsy is definitely getting better as

the weeks go on and the one thing we were mostly worried about was her asthma, but she normally steps up when she needs to."

Ross said she wasn't too disappointed about anything particular at Lincoln last Friday.

"I tend not to be disappointed during the meets because I think by being disappointed, it takes away from the athlete's motivation and their confidence," Ross said. "So basically every meet is a practice for conference, and we just use that for a stepping stone for where everyone needs to be."

The teams head to Warrensburg for the Central Missouri State University Classic Friday.

Ross said that the main thing this week was that the team gets rest for the MIAA Conference Championships in Joplin, Mo.

"We need to rest and just get everyone healthy and do it when it counts," Ross said. "Conference is when it counts."

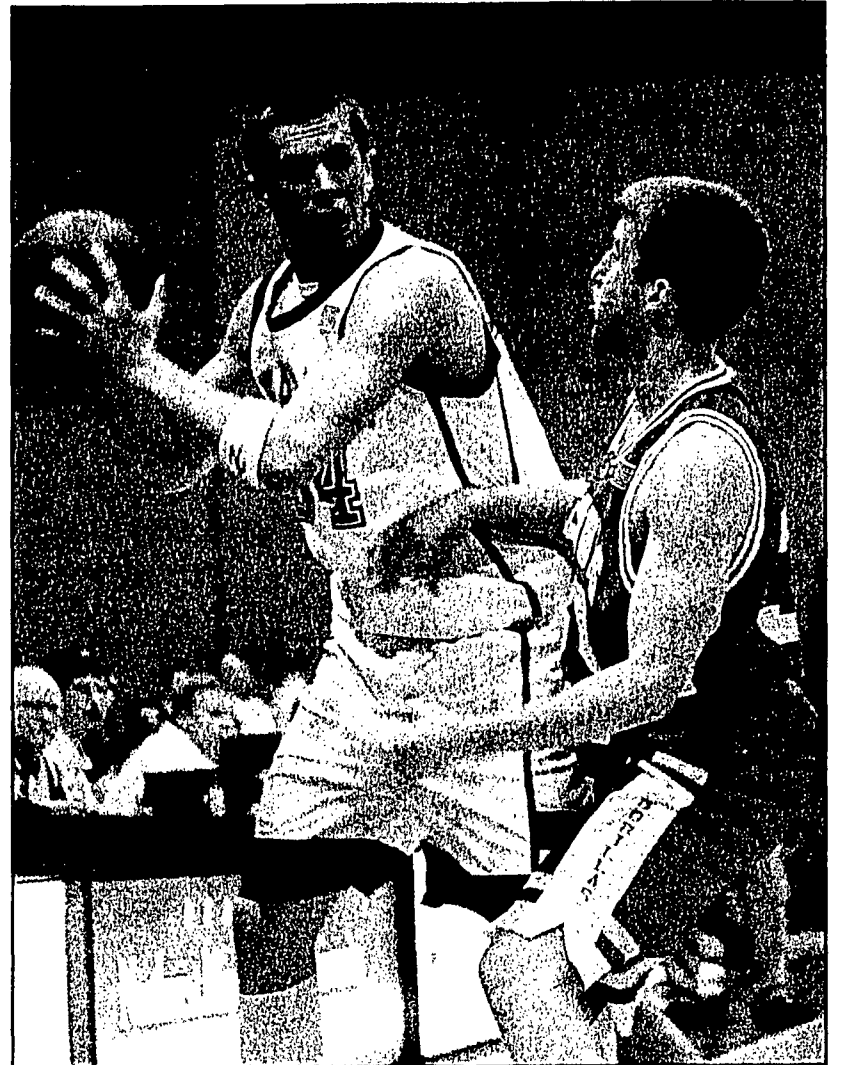


PHOTO BY COLEYOUNG/SPORTS EDITOR

Sophomore Austin Meyer holds the ball away from a Pittsburg State defender during Saturday's win over the Gorillas. Meyer scored five points for the No. 6 ranked Bearcats.

CONTINUED from 1B

'Cats drop key game to Washburn, fall another game back in the MIAA race

chipped in 14 points.

"Austin can go and get buckets and he did that tonight," Tappmeyer said.

Chipman did not fault his defense. Instead, he said it was smart plays run by Northwest to get Meyer open.

The 'Cats continued their run and had the lead cut to 11 points three times, but 62-51 is the closest they would get.

Washburn put the game 'out of reach' with a 10-2 run to squish any Bearcat hopes of a comeback.

"We had it at 11 and missed a jumper in the open court," Tappmeyer said. "Then we didn't rotate back on defense and the lead goes to 13. That was our best chance, we would have

had them rolling a little, I think."

While Washburn did not get any points from Robbins in the second half, Head and senior J.P. Meitner picked up the slack and finished with 18 and 12 points respectively.

But, it was Head's defense on Parker that caught Meitner's attention.

"Jerad Head played awesome tonight," Meitner said. "I mean Kelvin Parker is a great player and the leading scorer in the league and Jerad shut him down. And with defense comes offense and he had an 18-point game.

You can't ask for any more from your point guard."

Bill Knust can be contacted at 562-1224 or bknust@missourianonline.com



Northwest Basketball



Northwest Basketball

CONTINUED from 1B

Baseball team picks up series win during season's opening weekend

and Michael French all scored for the Bearcats in the inning.

Northeastern responded in their half of the fourth by putting four runs on the board as well.

The Redmen would put another run on the board in the seventh to wrap up the scoring and give Northwest a 9-6 win.

Van Gilmore got the win for the

Bearcats while Coons earned his second save of the year.

Northwest is back in action this weekend when they travel to Henderson State for a weekend series.

The Bearcats open up their home portion of the season on March 10 against Grandview College.

Cole Young can be contacted at 562-1224 or cyoung@missourianonline.com

CONTINUED from 1B

Bearcats fall at the hands of Lady Blues, turn attention to Missouri Southern

on the boards, their defense made up for it by forcing 11 turnovers. In turn the 'Cats only gave it away six times.

Northwest seized the early momentum from the Lady Blues, racing to a 6-0 lead before Washburn responded with a 10-2 run to take their first lead of the game.

But, as the case was all half, the 'Cats responded with a 10-2 run of their own to take an 18-12 lead.

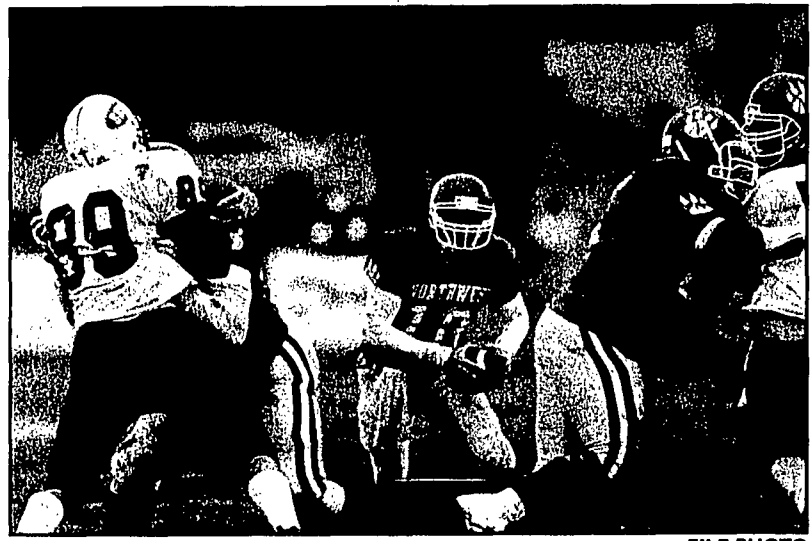
The rest of the half was back and forth

with six lead changes in the last 10 minutes.

Senior guard Erica Hatterman led the 'Cats in scoring with 16 points.

Now the 'Cats must turn their attention to one of the hottest teams in the MIAA, Missouri Southern State University.

"We'll worry about this loss for about a night," Vollersen said. "We've got a tough one on Saturday."



FILE PHOTO

Starting quarterback Josh Lamberson looks for a hole during a game last season. Northwest filled one of two empty spots in their schedule this week when they agreed to play West Chester University from West Chester, Pa.

Bearcats pick up Golden Rams; still looking for another team

By COLE YOUNG
SPORTS EDITOR

Northwest came one step closer to filling their upcoming football schedule this week by adding West Chester University to their schedule next season.

The Bearcats had two open dates when last season finished, after Minnesota-Mankato and South Dakota State University dropped from the schedule.

Minnesota State chose not to renew their contract with the Bearcats, while Division 1-AA bound SDSU backed out of their contract for the season.

The Bearcats traveled to Brookings, S.D. last fall where they lost 20-0, but were supposed to host the Jackrabbits at Rickenbrode Stadium this season.

If Northwest was not able to add any teams, they would have only had nine games next season.

"It's a big relief," head coach Mel Tjeerdsma said. "I felt all along that we would be able to fill the schedule, but at the same time we had about exhausted all of our options."

The Golden Rams will fill the Sept. 4 opening in the schedule.

West Chester, a member of the Pennsylvania State Intercollegiate Conference, finished 8-3 overall, with two of their losses coming by just one point.

"I don't know a lot about them," Tjeerdsma said. "They were very productive on offense, averaging about 455 yards a game and their quarterback was only a junior."

Though most of the options for playing Division II teams from the area have been exhausted, Tjeerdsma said

they won't look to another division. "The way the playoff system works with the Strength of Schedule Index, you need to play Division II schools," Tjeerdsma said.

The deal with West Chester is good for only the 2004 season and does not include a trip to Pennsylvania for the Bearcats.

Next season Northwest will add the University of Nebraska-Omaha back to their schedule.



Northwest Football

By JEROME BOETTCHER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The heated rivalry between Missouri Western and Northwest continues to bring big crowds in, no matter what sport the two face off in. And once again the Northwest ticket office is ready.

In order to allow Northwest students to get tickets before the game sells out, students will be able to pick them up at the Student Services Desk in the Administration Building starting Monday.

Five hundred tickets have been set aside for Northwest students for

Wednesday night's games. Not only are the games between rivals, but it's also the last home game for both Northwest teams.

The tickets will be given on a first-come, first-serve basis. As always, students should have their Bearcat cards with them in order to receive their complimentary student ticket. Each student may only receive one ticket.

The students can still also

pick them up at Bearcat Arena before the games. The doors open up at 4:30 p.m., one hour before the women's game. However, students are recommended to pick them up in advance.

The games tend to be standing-room-only. Northwest played the Griffons on Jan. 7 and though school was not in session, 2,431 spectators managed to make it out for the games

in St. Joseph. Both Northwest teams won.

The Missouri Western men's basketball team struggled this season. They are 5-9 in conference play and 11-12 overall. They only lost to Northwest by nine points when the teams played in January.

On the other side, the Lady Griffons have had a decent year with a 9-5 conference record and a 17-6 overall. Missouri Western is in fourth place in the MIAA conference, two places below the Lady Bearcats. However, they lost to Northwest by 16 points when the two teams played last month.

Jerome Boettcher can be contacted at 562-1224 or jboettcher@missourianonline.com

Northwest Ford-Lincoln Mercury's

Spotlight Player

...in the 60m dash and second in the 200m dash. He clocked a season best 21.61 seconds in the 200m dash and 6.78 seconds in the 60m dash.



Five 'Hounds prepare for state wrestling championships

By ANDY TIMKO
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

State competition is in the air and five 'Hounds wrestlers will receive a big whiff of it when they travel to Columbia for the MSHSAA Class 1 State Championship this weekend.

Last week the Spoofhounds wrestling team qualified every member of the team for sectionals and a chance to go to state.

Last Saturday the 'Hounds could not get the momentum rolling like they did in districts, but five wrestlers still finished in the top four in their weight class.

Cody Gillenwater, Skyler Vandiver, Joseph Drake, Jon Reed and Eric Wilmarth are the five 'Hounds that proved they were ready for state competition.

"We're very pleased that we were

able to advance five on," Drake said. "Now we just hope that they will all do very well once they get there."

Although the 'Hounds were not able to pull together like they did in districts, the overall effort did help feed energy to those wrestlers who did qualify for state.

"Whether it's a dual or a tournament, I think when you have a group of kids that are really excited and you get on a roll, you gain momentum and I think that's all very important," Drake said. "We just couldn't get people to catch the momentum and get the ball rolling."

Drake said that the team would practice as a whole until the night before the five contenders depart for Columbia.

"Everyone continues to stay, everyone continues to help," Drake

said. "Whether it's practice and physically helping them or verbal encouragement, it's a very supportive group."

The wrestlers left for Columbia on Wednesday and spent the night in Jefferson City.

A light warm-up to get them stretched out and a weight check will be all that is done the night before the tournament, according to Drake.

Today the 'Hounds start wrestling for individual state championships in their weight classes.

"I think the five we have down there are very good wrestlers and we have high expectations," Drake said. "We think we're very competitive with the five we're taking."

Even with five competitive

wrestlers, Drake does not think it is viable to win a championship for the team.

"It's probably not feasible because right now to win the state title in Missouri, you're going to have to have a large contention of good wrestlers down there," Drake said. "By large, we're talking probably eight to 10 wrestlers, and on the high side, 10 or more to do well at the state tournament because that's how competitive it is right now."

Drake said his wrestlers are competitive enough to wrestle with others in the state, but he remains unsure whether any Maryville wrestler will emerge a champion.

"We'll know that on Saturday night when everything is done with," he said.

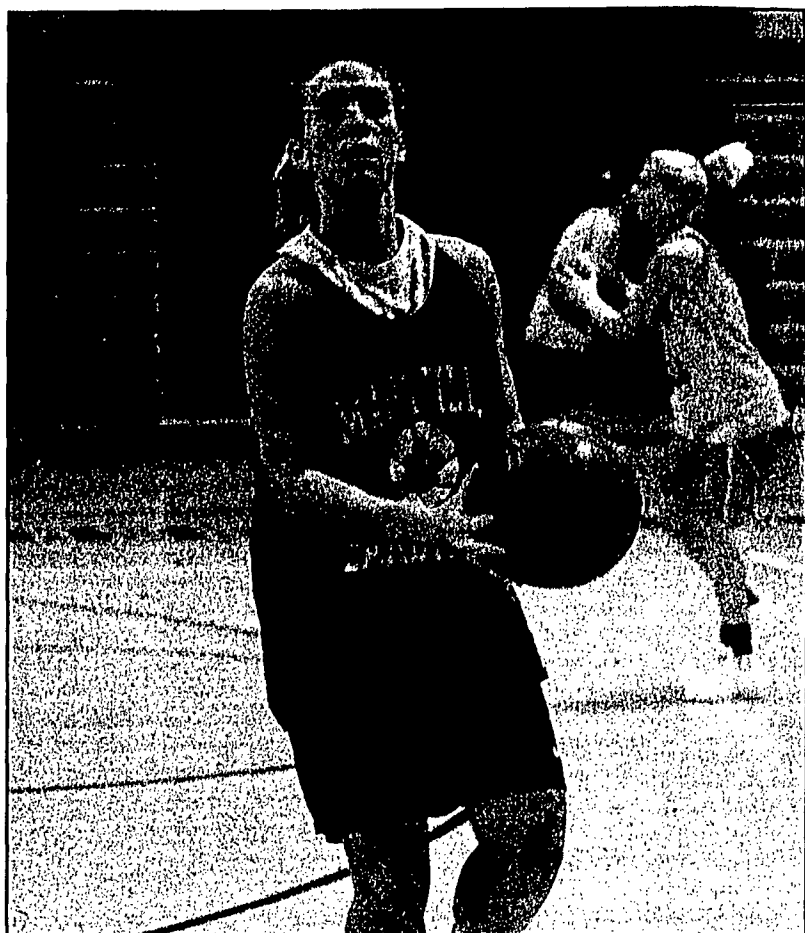


PHOTO BY NIKI CARDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Elizabeth Baker gets ready to shoot during practice Tuesday. The team hosts the Savannah Savages tonight at 8 p.m. The Savages have the best record in the MEC.

CONTINUED from 1B

Championships the goal for Maryville wrestlers this weekend

Two first-time qualifiers Jon Reed and Eric Wilmarth have turned to Drake to gain his insight on the whole experience.

"We've been wrestling since 8th grade together," Drake said. "They ask me what it is like and I try and help them as best I can."

He said their questions have been geared mostly towards what the experience is like.

"More or less, I try and let them know what to do," he said. "They haven't ever even gone (to the tournament) and watched."

The 'Hounds' other title hope is in sophomore Cody Gillenwater.

Gillenwater qualified for state last year as a freshman and said he has learned a little bit about the experience.

"It was kind of nerve-racking, but you can't let that get to you," Gillenwater said.

While he has learned from last year's



PHOTO BY NIKI CARDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

State qualifier Cody Gillenwater practices against teammate Michael Swinford Tuesday afternoon. Gillenwater is making his second trip to the State Championships. The 125-pounder starts the tournament off against senior Michael Schneider from Versailles.

trip, he realizes that once you get to state, everyone is even.

"In wrestling, anything can happen," Gillenwater said. "You have to look at every match as it is the toughest match you are going in."

Even though the wrestlers have said the nerves won't get to them, once they arrive Drake admitted things may be a

little different, especially for those headed there for the first time.

"They are going to be nervous," Drake said. "I wasn't nervous on the way down there last year, but when I got there, it was a whole different story."

Cole Young can be contacted at 562-1224 or cyoung@missourianonline.com



Hounds Wrestling

State Bound 'Hounds

Cody Gillenwater (28-6)
Weight Class- 125 lb
State Rank- 4th
First Match: Michael Schneider, Versailles (26-7)

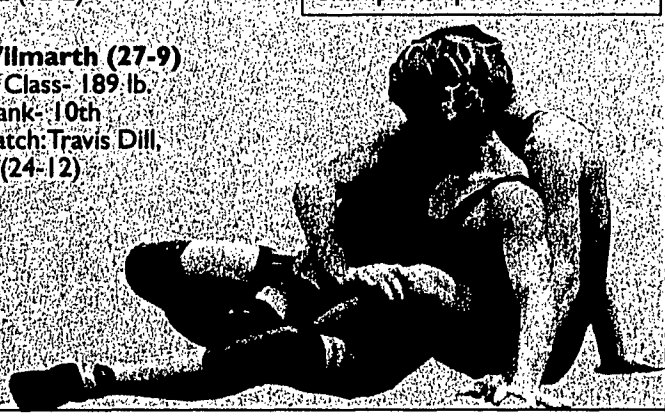
Skyler Vandiver (27-4)
Weight Class- 145 lb
State Rank- 3rd
First Match: Cody Hampton, Dexter (15-12)

Joseph Drake (23-4)
Weight Class- 152 lb
State Rank- 4th
First Match: Cody Green, Monnet (40-1)

Jon Reed (27-10)
Weight Class- 171 lb
State Rank- Unranked
First Match: Mitch Stock, Principia (12-2)

Eric Wilmarth (27-9)
Weight Class- 189 lb
State Rank- 10th
First Match: Travis Dill, Buffalo (24-12)

Starting tonight you can check out missourianonline.com to see how the wrestlers are doing at the MSHSAA Class 1 State Championships.



FAN PLAN

	TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Northwest men's basketball			Missouri Southern 3:30 p.m.				Missouri Western 7:30 p.m.
Northwest women's basketball			Missouri Southern 1:30 p.m.				Missouri Western 5:30 p.m.
Northwest indoor track			CMSU Classic (Warrensburg)				
Maryville boys' basketball		Savannah 8 p.m.				Cameron 8 p.m.	
Maryville girls' basketball	Savannah 8 p.m.		Smithville 8 p.m.			Cameron 8 p.m.	
Maryville wrestling	State (Columbia) TBA	State (Columbia) TBA	State (Columbia) TBA				

■ GAME TO WATCH: If you have time this weekend, try to make it down to Columbia for the State Wrestling Championships. Maryville is sending five wrestlers to state and 'Hounds wrestler Skyler Vandiver should make a run for the 145 weight class title. ■ Home games

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Your Man says so long to the 'Ville

Editor's note: The current Stroller has departed Maryville to fulfill an internship requirement. In order to follow in the tradition of the Stroller, whose duty is to reflect on the happenings within the Northwest and Maryville communities, a new Stroller will be continuing this column effective next week.

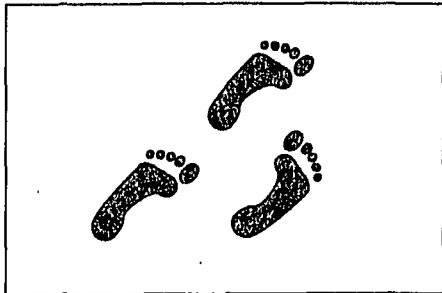
The days are getting longer and serotonin levels are up, but I still feel as cynical as ever. I am, however, moderately amused at some of the feedback I have recently received regarding the impertinent and frivolous nature of my column.

I have strolled to a crossroads. Actually, I strolled all the way out of Maryville, not to return. I am unsure how this affects my strolling savvy. I think it would be pretty ridiculous to write a local opinion column from 100 miles away. Much the same way it would be ridiculous to submit letters to *The Missourian* from Phoenix, Ariz.

Maybe I can set up an e-mail address with *The Missourian* through which people can send me local issues they would like to see strolled. That is a possibility.

Whatever the outcome, I have decided to use this opportunity to say "so long" to a few things that I will, no doubt, miss about Maryville.

Farewell to third-floor library bowl



THE STROLLER

movements. It's by far the most placid and serene place to take a dump on campus. Making a quick stop at the periodical rack on the second floor can easily make a third-floor stall session more enjoyable. However, the disturbability factor in the second-floor restroom is significantly greater.

So long to the downtown business owners whose exposed exterior gas lines served as perfect gangways to the roof of my apartment when I had locked myself out. P.S. dude, the Crisco on the pipes did absolutely nothing. If anything they made them easier to climb. Might I suggest axle grease?

So long to the guy with the flattop at

Happy Garden, who always let me get extra rice and cashews with my meals instead of egg rolls or crab rangoon.

See you later, nice Korean woman who owns the laundromat and somehow showed up to work wearing one of my shirts. It's all right, you can keep it. It looks better on you anyway.

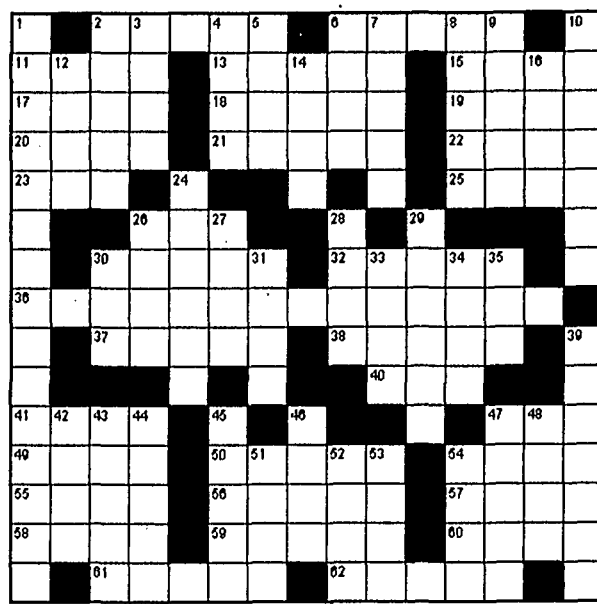
Peace out, Thomas, my cat. She ran away after she could no longer tolerate our other cat, Fish. She lives under the gazebo on 2nd and Buchanan. If you're ever out that way and happen to have a bowl of Meow Mix, give Thomas a handout.

Later, Shover. You know who you are. The only organism alive that communicates solely through the act of violently shoving those within his highly-sensitive push radius. Warning: Trying to reason with this creature is ill-advised.

So there it is, just a few shout-outs to help me cope with my departure. Who knows if I will ever write another column for *The Missourian* again? It's been swell. Sort of. Smell you later.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of *The Northwest Missourian*.

WEEKLY CROSSWORD



Across
2. Worn to protect the clothing

6. Fermented grape juices

11. Lady's-finger

13. State resident

15. English princess

17. Fixes

18. Ogles

19. Underground part of a plant

20. Deuces

21. Thin glutinous mud

22. Authentic

23. Finish first

25. Biddies

26. Person whose religion

is Judaism

30. Devote

32. Modify

36. Complete change

37. Shooting sport

38. Sealing compound

40. Purchase

41. Places to sleep

47. Shaft horsepower

49. Executive Officer

50. Away

54. Pal

55. Imitator

56. Tester

57. Hawaiian port

58. Draw near

59. Book of

the Bible

60. Annoys

61. Native of Switzerland

62. Type of pack

Down

1. Florida city

2. Inert elemental gas

3. Move past

4. Lubricates

5. Yuletide

6. Of moderate temperature

7. Insert

8. Planet

9. Breathe noisily

10. Hates intensely

12. Flightless bird

14. Small dam

16. Part of speech

24. Rich and fashionable travellers

26. Trash

27. Spouse

28. Group of tents

29. Genus of vermin

30. Step in ballet

31. Short letter

33. Paint unskillfully

34. Be sorry for

35. Plaything

39. Highest

42. Public exhibition

43. Judges

44. Metal fastener

45. Mathematics

46. Raised platform

47. Evade work

48. Unwieldy ship

51. Career golfers

52. Unpleasant smell

53. Salver

54. Stylish

on the edge

Restaurant facts:

■ Only men were allowed to eat at the first self-service restaurant, the Exchange Buffet in New York, opened in 1885. Customers ate standing up.

■ Five percent of people who frequent restaurants claim they eat out because they do not know how to cook.

■ The Caesar salad is not named after Julius Caesar. It is named for its creator, Caesar Cardini, who first prepared the salad in his Caesar's Palace Restaurant in Tijuana, Mexico.

■ According to "Emily Post's Etiquette," a tip at a family restaurant should be 15 percent of the bill without tax. For a buffet a 10 percent tip is sufficient, but never leave less than a quarter, even if you only have a cup of coffee.

■ There is no tipping at restaurants in Japan.

See answers below

Uselessknowledge.com

Upcoming Concerts

Maryville

Feb. 20 Cavo
The Pub

Feb. 27 Seven Star with C-squared
The Pub

Des Moines

Feb. 21 Sting
Civic Center

Feb. 28 Renee Austin
Blues on Grand

Feb. 28 Jesse Lang
House of Bricks

Mar. 8 Steve Hofstetter
Grandview College

Kansas City

Feb. 25 A Static Lullaby
Spitfire

Feb. 28 Montgomery Gentry
Ameristar Casino

Feb. 28 MercyMe
Kansas City Aud. Arena

Feb. 28 O.A.R.
Uptown Theatre

Omaha

Feb. 21 Sting
Civic Center

Feb. 28 Renee Austin
Blues on Grand

For more information on upcoming events check out
www.pollstar.com



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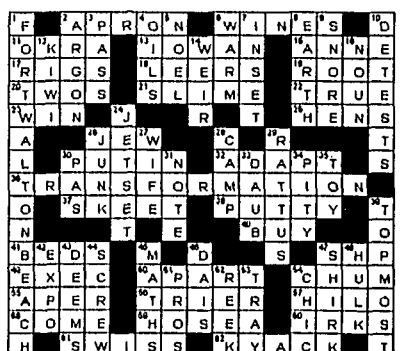
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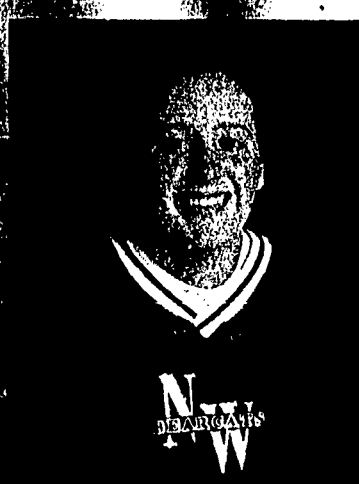
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